SUNDAY TIMES, February 2, 1930.

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Sunday Times

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HOTELS CONTINUED ON PAGE 23
CLASSIFIED LIST ON PAGE 27

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— AND —
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CITY CHATTER.

SHAPING BETTER — AUSTRALIAN STOCKS — METROPOLITAN DIVIDEND — RHODESIANS BUOYANT — OILS FIRM.

(R. J. BARRETT, Financial Editor.)

Stock markets are shaping a little better, but the return of confidence is bound to be slow. As expected, Rhodesian Copper shares have provided the chief outlet for speculation, while most other markets are neglected, apart from a moderate volume of investment business. India stocks rallied on the reassuring announcement issued on behalf of the Secretary of State, and a slight recovery took place in Australian loans. The Central Electricity Board issue proved to have been made at far too high a price, and the scrip is quoted at 1¾ discount. Central Argentine Debenture scrip, on the other hand, after opening at ⅝ discount recovered almost to par. Brighton Corporation is issuing £1,100,000 5 per Cent. stock 1950-60 at 99½, and this will be followed by an issue of £750,000 Hastings Corporation 5 per Cent. stock at 99.

Although the Metropolitan Railway dividend, making 4 per cent. for the year, was quite as good as expected, the stock reacted a little. Traffics continue favourable, and the stock is still attractive. As regards Home Rails generally, a helpful factor is the prospect of coal contracts being renewed at current rates until June, 1931.

Argentine Railway traffics continue very poor, and in the case of the Cordoba Central the heavy aggregate decrease of £240,000 is causing anxiety. It is noped that some of the lost traffic will be recovered in the final quarter of the financial year, but the dividend outlook at present is poor.

Little of interest transpired in the Foreign market, but a steady demand is experienced for European and South-Eastern bonds, while South Americans, as a rule, are out of favour.

AUSTRALIAN STOCKS.

The recovery in Australian stocks which fell on the advent of a Labour Government should be helped by the statement of Mr. Fenton, the Commonwealth delegate to the Naval Conference. His assurance that the present Australian Government is fully alive to the difficulties of the present situation and will so order its acts as to ensure a return to normal financial and economic conditions as soon as possible should serve to restore confidence among timid investors unduly perturbed by the new Ministry's policy. What investors would especially like to hear is that the Government is determined to pursue a policy of economy and not to depend on borrowed money for the execution of its various schemes of social reform.

The general complaint is that Australia has overborrowed, but in view of the vast resources of the country and the potentialities of their further development, that criticism is hardly justified. Still, nothing would do more to inspire the confidence of investors than a Budgetary surplus and the elimination of railway deficits. If the new Government can secure those desired objects its credit on the London market will be in no danger of deterioration.

METROPOLITAN DIVIDEND.

The first declaration is at least a hopeful beginning of the Home Railway dividend season. The Metropolitan has increased its distribution from 3½ per cent. to 4 per cent., and as the extra ½ per cent. calls for some £38,000, while the published increase in traffic receipts was £2,000 less, it is evident that the company has been keeping down expenses, especially as, despite a decrease in the amount brought in, there is an increase of £8,000 in the carry forward after the usual allocation of £10,000 to reserve.

The experience of this company is, of course, hardly typical, as the line depends, for all practical purposes, on passenger traffic, any expansion in which adds little to working expenses. But the progress made in recent years through the development of suburban business is quite remarkable, and the possibilities of future expansion are considerable in view of the steady increase in housing accommodation in Metroland. Consequently a further gradual increase in dividends is probable. Meanwhile, the Ordinary stock obtainable at about 65, including accrued dividend, gives a return of £6 9s. per cent. on the basis of the past year's distribution.

No other Home Railway dividends are due until the 12th inst., when the Great Western, L.M.S., and Southern will simultaneously make their announcements. A day later the Underground group will disclose its results, while on the 21st perhaps the most eagerly awaited declaration of all, that of the L.N.E.R., will be made. Market expectation is that the Great Western announcement will at least be equal to the most sanguine anticipations.

BANK CHAIRMEN'S VIEWS.

Several interesting speeches were made at the bank meetings held during the past week. Mr. Hugh Tennant, of the Westminster, discoursed eloquently about the advantages which this country enjoys through being the seat of what is still the world's financial centre. The sum total of his observations was that "the City," discovered by Ministers desirous of exploiting its activities, is an essential part of the economic life of the country. Without the facilities which banks, discount houses, and foreign exchange brokers provide, large profits, officially estimated at between £60,000,000 and £70,000,000 per annum, would be sacrificed, and the difference between imports and exports could not be bridged over.

At the National Provincial meeting the chairman, Sir Harry Goschen, expressed the confident conclusion that, except in the cotton trade, the general trend of business is upward. The rise in railway receipts and the large volume of shipbuilding orders are at least a cause for hope in the future.

Mr. Beaumont Pease, whose speeches as deputy chairman nearly always overshadowed those of his chief, made probably the most interesting contribution to current financial controversy in his able defence of the banks' attitude towards industry. Many ignorant people complain that the banks are not doing enough to assist trade and ought to employ their depositors' resources in helping manufacturers by locking up their funds in fixed assets. That obviously is the function of companies whose capital resources are not liable to repayment on demand. Were banks to freeze their funds by employing them in financing the implements of production they would very soon be unable to furnish those seasonal advances to industry which it is their vital function to provide. Banks, after all, are banks as understood in this country, and any attempt to turn them into institutions for the financing of industry would be fatal to their stability.

Mr. Allan Paton, in his speech to Martins Bank shareholders, while unable to claim that our key industries are more than holding their own, sounded a note of cheerful confidence concerning the future. The new chairman of Martins is no believer in the persistence of the southward trend of industry, and spurns the notion that the North is in a state of decay. There, as elsewhere, manufacturers will prove themselves equal to meeting the changed conditions of our domestic and overseas trade.

INDUSTRIAL POINTS.

Lethargic conditions prevailed in the Industrial markets, liquidations from the provinces being still in evidence, though most of the leading shares were supported at the lower levels. In the case of Dunlops the forced selling is believed to have been completed, and these shares show a moderate recovery, but the low price of rubber and the doubts regarding the McKenna duties are factors of uncertainty. It would be unwise perhaps to attach too much importance to dividend estimates at this stage, as the position is capable of changing for the better before the report is due.

United Molasses received support on the setback, and Imperial Chemicals showed resistance. None of the recent adverse rumours regarding the latter has been substantiated, whereas it is known that the fall from the highest point of last year was mainly due to liquidation on a heavy scale. Turner and Newall became easier there being no obvious "bull point" to anticipate now that the merger is completed, but on a set-back the shares are believed to be worth acquiring. Swedish Match "B" also suffered from forced selling, and lost ground despite the completion of the negotiations for the German match monopoly.

In the Textile group interest attached to a moderate revival in Snia Viscosa. The resignation of the chairman is expected to lead to economies, since he was entitled to a commission on all sales. As expected, no dividend is being paid for the past year, but the financial position is described as greatly improved. Some people favour the shares as a "hedge" against Courtaulds, as the company would not suffer if the silk duties were to be repealed, whereas the slowing-down of Courtaulds' operations is ascribed to this possibility. Cotton Textiles are naturally depressed by the slump in the raw material, necessitating the writing down of stocks.

Cables and Wireless issues suffered a sharp fall on pessimistic estimates of the results of the first year's working. It has all along been considered unlikely that any dividend would be paid for this year on the "B" stock, and that no more than 5 per cent. would be forthcoming on the 7½ per cent. "A" Ordinary. Only if the results are worse than this would the fall be justified.

A feature of the Newspaper group was a sharp advance in Amalgamated Press 10s. shares to 21s. 6d. Allied Newspapers remained steady at 1¼. Among Stores shares, Maples dropped heavily on the cut in the dividend. Elsewhere Manbré and Garton provided a firm spot. N.C. Metals and Zinc Manufacturing emerged from their long neglect, the former rising to 6, which is double the price at which the new shares were issued. Stewarts and Lloyds are interested in these companies.

INVESTMENT HINTS.

South Manchurian Railway 4½ per cent. Bonds, guaranteed by Japan, are an attractive investment at 92⅜. While the "flat" yield is only £4 17s. 10d. per cent., the return, including redemption, is £6 2s. per cent., owing to the fact that repayment is due by 1936 at latest.

Germany 7 per cent. Potash Bonds at 105½ return £6 14s. 7d. per cent., or, allowing for redemption in 1950, about 6¼ per cent. The syndicate has the monopoly of all exports of potash from Germany, and all proceeds of exports, which, on an average of the years 1923-25, amounted to £3,100,000, are payable to the agents of the loan. The service of the loan requires £700,000.

Although the profits of Phillips Rubber Soles showed a slight decline in the past year, the dividend is maintained at 15 per cent., and the shares at 35s. offer the good yield of over 8½ per cent. The position has been strengthened by writing off the balance of preliminary expenses and increasing the reserves, as well as by the provision of an employees' fund. Subject to trade fluctuations, the shares are a useful industrial holding.

Australian Government stocks stand at very low levels and while those who have trustee funds to invest are naturally chary of placing their funds in anything savouring of speculation, the yields offered at current prices are such as should appeal to investors who have a perfectly free hand. The adverse factors in the situation are sufficiently well known, but a point that is insufficiently appreciated is that the good rains that have fallen in the pastoral districts are a very important factor, contributing to the prosperity of the Australian continent in the coming year. At 86 the 5 per cent. 1945-75 stock returns £5 16s. 3d per cent., or, including redemption, almost 6 per cent."

Metropolitan Surplus Lands stock receives 3⅞ per cent. for the past year instead of 3¾ per cent., and, allowing for accrued dividend, the yield at 72½ is over 5¼ per cent. The value of the company's surplus lands is likely to grow steadily, and the stock is a promising lock-up investment.

RHODESIANS BUOYANT.

The Mining departments have this week provided the outstanding feature of the Stock Exchange in the shape of an outburst of buoyancy in Rhodesians. Competitive buying of Congo Borders, stimulated by drilling results of remarkable richness, drove the price up to 12½, or substantially above the level reached in last year's boom. On Thursday the gain amounted to 2⅜—a movement also setting up a fresh record in its extent. The shares of the subsidiary N'Changa Company followed at a respectful distance. Rio Tinto and Minerals Separations went ahead on the strength of the company's interest in these two undertakings. Bwanas benefited from an encouraging cable; Chartered were extensively bought in anticipation of the forthcoming dividend and of the increased royalties on copper foreshadowed by the latest discoveries. Various others scored useful gains, Rhodesia Minerals being prominent amongst the juniors.

Kaffirs have been virtually out of the picture save for one incident, and that an unsatisfactory one—a slump in Brakpan on the decrease in both quantity and value shown by the latest ore reserve estimate. The fall may be regarded as overdone. Diamond shares have developed a better tendency on the more hopeful outlook for the industry.

Tin shares had a recovery on the news that His Excellency Don Simon Patino, President of the most important Bolivian tin enterprise, had decided to support the restriction policy of the Tin Producers' Association. The attitude of the Dutch Government has yet to be disclosed, but there is reason to believe that it will co-operate in effect, even if no formal declaration be made. From over £180 per ton the price of tin has relapsed to under £176 10s. on profit-taking in the expectation that the end-January statistics will make an unfavourable showing. By the end of February the effects of restriction should be apparent. At one time Broken Hills were heavily sold from Australia owing to fears of a recrudescence of labour troubles on the New South Wales coal fields.

OILS FIRM.

While there has been no expansion in the volume of business transacted in Oil shares a distinctly brighter tendency has been noticeable throughout the market. It is being realised that on some of the better class descriptions satisfactory yields are obtainable, and several of the dividend payers have been picked out for attention. V.O.C. Holding have provided a good feature, a keen demand having arisen for the shares for reasons given here last week. Other issues of which there has been good investment buying are Shell Transports, Burmahs, Anglo-Egyptian "B," and Trinidad Leaseholds, all of which hold speculative possibilities.

It is satisfactory to note a further appreciable decline in production of crude oil in the United States, which is now running at a lower rate than twelve months ago. On the other hand, it is reported that the output of gasolene by the principal producers continued to increase. Speaking on the question of the balance between demand and supply the President of the Atlantic Refining Company stated that in their opinion there would be an increase in 1930 of about 6 per cent. in the demand for oil products, and for gasolene, the chief product of the industry, an increase in demand of slightly more than 8 per cent. Whether viewed from the standpoint of the consumer or the standpoint of the industry, he continued, there are sound bases for moderate optimism concerning the outlook for the petroleum industry during the coming twelve months.

The Anglo-American Oil Company announces that, as between 70 per cent. and 80 per cent. of the shares outstanding have been deposited, or promised to be deposited, the success of the offer to exchange into shares of the Standard Oil Export Corporation is assured.

RUBBERS STEADY.

Rubber shares displayed quite a firm appearance, despite the fact that business remained on a small scale. There was a certain amount of buying inquiry, but usually at limits below those at which it was possible to find sellers. A small bear position is understood to be still open among the leading issues, and this resulted in a fair turnover in several of these towards the close, probably on end-account levelling up of commitments.

Conditions in the commodity market followed a somewhat uninteresting trend, and the price of spot sheet fluctuated within small limits at about 7¼d. The general feeling appeared to be more hopeful that definite results will materialise from the latest British-Dutch conference to solve the problem of limiting production. With this latter object in view, the recent decision of the Telogoredjo United Plantations to reduce the 1930 estimate by 10 per cent. was followed during the week by the Kuala Pertang Syndicate. The restriction in the second case is conditional upon a sufficient number of other companies adopting a similar policy.

The recent issues by the Linggi Plantations of Convertible Debentures is being followed by the British Rubber Estates of Java. It is understood that £120,000 will be issued, of £150,000 authorised. The Debentures will carry interest at 7 per cent., and be redeemable at 105 per cent. after December, 1936, or at 102 per cent. on December 31, 1945. The Debentures will be convertible until December, 1936, on the basis of eight 2s. shares for each £1 of Debentures.

Tea shares continue to give way, and, with one or two exceptions, a general decline in quotations was shown on the week. There was a little demand for those shares which have already fallen substantially, but a fair amount of selling pressure again prevailed, especially among the Indian issues. The average price obtained at the auctions worked out at 1s. 2.38d., against 1s. 2.18d. the previous week, and 1s. 6.49d. for the corresponding sales a year ago.

THE OUTLOOK.

To restore the confidence of investors is the task with which the City is confronted, and it is therefore good news that the Committee of the Stock Exchange has appointed a sub-committee to consider whether greater safeguards for investors can be provided before permission is given to deal in new securities. But this in itself is not sufficient. The new Companies Act, as has already been pointed out, is very far from perfect, and must be amended.

As matters stand every sound and honest company is put to great trouble and expense in order to give details in its balance sheet which the shareholders do not want and which do not help them materially to understand the position. The additional information required to be given in prospectuses adds to the expense of new issues, thereby increasing the burden of preliminary costs. The real remedy for abuses of the law was recently pointed out by Lord St. Davids, who said that enlarged powers should be granted to the Board of Trade to investigate the position of companies.

Every new business must have a beginning, and it is the duty of all who are connected with new issues to see that subscribers are given a fair run for their money. Industry cannot be expected to thrive and develop unless it is fed by a constant stream of fresh capital. But money put into dubious ventures whose claims are supported by nothing more substantial than mere estimates is money wasted, and, in the national interest, such waste must be made to stop.

Such speculative interest as exists in markets at the moment is chiefly directed to Rhodesian Copper shares in consequence of the further discoveries of rich ore and to tin shares, because of the recovery in the metal consequent upon the enlarged scope of the Tin Association. It would not be surprising to see a reawakening of interest in Rubbers if the voluntary restriction movement spreads or if co-operation with the Dutch producers becomes an accomplished fact. But it is the investment markets that will derive the chief benefit from the present situation now that the selling to provide against the Hatry settlement is finished.

PAST WEEK'S MARKET FEATURES.

	Jan. 24.		Jan. 31.		+ Rise or — Fall.
GILT-EDGED.					
War Loan 5%	100⅛	...	100⅞	...	— 1/8
Conversion 5½%	75⅞	...	75⅞	...	— 1/8
Consolidated 4%	83	...	82⅞	...	— 1/8
Funding 4%	86⅝	...	86½	...	— 1/8
India 3%	49¼	...	50¼	...	+ 1
Do. 4% '58 '68	79½	...	80	...	+ 1/2
FOREIGN.					
Brazil 5% Funding	77	...	76½	...	— 1/2
Bulgaria 7%	89	...	90	...	+ 1
Chi e 6%	95	...	94¼	...	— 5/4
Egypt Unified	79¼	...	78¾	...	— 1/2
Mexican 5%	23	...	20½	...	— 2½
S. Paulo Coffee	82⅝	...	82	...	— 5/8
Turkish 4%	18¾	...	19¼	...	+ 1/2
HOME AND FOREIGN RAILS.					
Gt. Western	91⅝	...	92¼	...	+ 1/2
L.M. and S.	54¾	...	52½	...	— 2¼
Can. Pacific	205½	...	204	...	— 1½
Cordoba 2nd Pf.	39½	...	34½	...	— 5
INDUSTRIALS.					
Allied Newspapers	1⅝	...	1¼	...	— 3/8
Amalgmtd. Press	20/-	...	21/6	...	+ 1/6
Columbia Graph.	5⅝	...	5½	...	— 1/8
Gramophone	4⅞	...	4¼	...	+ 1/8
Curreras	10⅛	...	9⅝	...	— 1/2
Bleachers	22/6	...	20/3	...	— 2/3
Gaumont Brit.	13.4½	...	15/-	...	+ 1.7½
N.C. Metals	4	...	6	...	+ 2
Zinc Manufactu'g	6/3	...	8/6	...	+ 2/3
Stewarts & Lloyds	25/9	...	26/9	...	+ 1/-
Turner & Newall	4⅝	...	4½	...	— 1/8
Brazil Traction	39⅛	...	40¼	...	+ 1⅛
Intern. Nickel	37¾	...	38¾	...	+ 1
Imp. Cont. Gas	37/3	...	37/0	...	— 3
Cables & W. "B"	35½	...	31	...	— 4½
MINES.					
Brakpan	3⅛	...	3⅛	...	— 5/8
Bwana M'Kubwa	21/4	...	23/6	...	+ 1.10½
Congo Borders	8⅛	...	12½	...	+ 4⅜
N'Changa	2	...	2⅝	...	+ 5/8
De Beers Def.	10⅛	...	10⅞	...	+ 1/8
Rio Tinto (£5)	46⅛	...	46⅝	...	+ 1/2
London Tin	1⅛x	...	1⅛	...	+ 1/8
Rhod. Minerals	8/9	...	13/3	...	+ 4/6
Minerals Separation	4¾	...	7	...	+ 2⅛
North Broken Hill	4⅜	...	4⅛	...	— 1/4
OILS.					
Anglo-Persian	3⅞	...	4⅛	...	+ 3/8
Attock	1⅞	...	1⅞	...	+ 1/8
Burmah	3¾	...	3¾	...	+ 3/8
Phœnix	11.10½	...	12/9	...	+ .1.0½
Royal Dutch	32⅞	...	33	...	+ 1/8
Shell	45/-	...	47⅜	...	+ 2/3
V.O.C. Holding	2⅛	...	3⅛	...	+ 1/8
RUBBERS.					
United Sua Betong	2⅜	...	2⅛	...	+ 3/32
Highlands and Lowlands	1⅛	...	1⅛	...	+ 3/8
Inch Kenneth	1⅜	...	1½	...	+ 1/8
Rubber Trusts	35/6	...	35/9	...	+ 3/-
TEAS.					
Borelli	3½	...	3⅛	...	— 3/8
Eastern Assam	3⅛	...	3⅛	...	— 1/8
Travancore	2⅛	...	2⅛	...	— 1/8
Bengal United	13	...	13	...	+ 1/8

WIGGINS, TEAPE & CO. (1919).

PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT WITH ALLIED COMPANIES.

It is announced that a provisional agreement has been entered into between Wiggins Teape and Co. (1919) and Portals (John Allen and Sons), Limited, and their associated companies, W. Howard and Son, and Roughway Paper Mills, for a fusion of interests. Col. Wyndham Portal, D.S.O., M.V.O., will in due course join the Board of Wiggins, Teape and Co. (1919).

This announcement does not refer to Portals, Limited, who will carry on their business at their mills at Laverstoke and Overton as heretofore.

HALL TELEPHONE ACCESSORIES.

PROPOSED OFFER OF NEW SHARE CAPITAL.

The directors of Hall Telephone Accessories (1928) are submitting a resolution to increase the capital to £250,000 by the creation of 150,000 additional shares of 10s. It is proposed to issue the 14,000 unissued shares, together with 28,000 out of the new capital at 11s. per share, representing a premium of 1s. Shareholders will have the right to apply for the 42,000 shares at the rate of one for every eight held. The net yield from the issue is estimated at £22,000.

Net profits for the year 1929 expanded to £40,365 from £30,094 for 1928. The directors recommend a final dividend of 6 per cent., together with a bonus of 2 per cent., making with the interim payment 12 per cent. for the year, as against 10 per cent. Appropriations to reserves total £22,200 (against £13,193), and £4,719 (compared with £1,631) is to be carried forward.

MONEY MARKET.

HEAVY GOVERNMENT CREDIT MOVEMENTS.

SATURDAY AFTERNOON.

Very heavy credit movements have taken place in Lombard Street during the past week, principally in connection with Government operations. To-day £14,500,000 4½ per cent. Treasury Bonds were paid off, while Government dividends on the 4 per cent. Consolidated and other loans involved the release of upwards of 15½ millions. Against these disbursements, however, had to be set the payment of the final call on the 5 per cent. Conversion Loan, although a substantial portion of this outstanding amount was paid off before the close of business yesterday. Earlier in the week over 15,000,000 of Exchequer Bonds were repaid. Short credit has remained quite easy, the rate for fresh funds at times dropping below 3 per cent., the present charge by lenders being 3½ per cent.

Discount rates have developed a weaker tendency owing to the reduction in the French Bank rate to 3 per cent and the impending gold influx from Spain. Three months' fine bank bills are now in demand at 3⅞ per cent., and even a trifle under.

Owing to the Chinese New Year holiday no support has been received for silver from China, and, as a result, Continental sales forced the price down to 20⅛d. for cash and 20d. for future shipment, which compare with 20 11-16d. and 20⅛d. respectively a week ago.

Bullion movements at the Bank of England since Monday have resulted in a net efflux of £929,363, due principally to the ear marking of gold for Argentina.

—	Method of quoting.	Par of exch.	Quotations. Feb. 1	Jan. 25
Paris, cheques	Fr. to £	124.21	123.96-.99	123.89-.91
Berlin	Mks. to £	20.43	20.36-.36½	20.36-.36⅛
Brussels, ch'ques	Belga to £	35.00	34.93-.94	34.93½-.94
Amst'rd'm, chqs.	Fl. to £	12.107	12.12¼-.12	12.10⅝-.11⅛
Italy, sight	Lire to £	92.46	92.93-92.96	92.97-93.00
Greece	Drch. to £	375	374½-375½	375 375⅝
Madrid, sight	Pes. to £	25.22½	36.90-.57.00	37.13-37.18
Lisbon, sight	Escudo	4.501½	108⅛-.3⅜	108⅛-.3⅜
Switz'rl'nd, sight	Fr. to £	25.22½	25.21½-.22	25.18½-.19
Oslo	sight Kr. to £	18.15⅜	18.20⅜-.21⅛	18.21¼-.3⅛
Stockholm, sight	Kr. to £	18.159	18.12¼-.3⅛	18.12¾-.13
Copenhagen, s'gt	Kr. to £	18.159	18.19-.19⅜	18.19-.19½
Helsingfors	Mks. to £	193.23	193⅜-.98	193½-.3⅛
Vienna	Sh. to £	34.58½	34.56-34.58	34.58-34.60
Alexandria, sight	Pstrs. to £	97⅛	97 15/16-97⅞	97 15/16-97⅞
Prague	Kr. to £	24.02	164⅛-½	164⅜-½
Bucharest	Lei to £	25.22½	817-819	817-820
Bombay, T.T.	Rupee	18d.	1s. 5⅞d.	1s. 5⅞d.
Calcutta, T.T.	Rupee	18d.	1s. 5⅞d.	1s. 5⅞d.
Hong Kong, T.T.	Dollar	—	1s. 6⅝d.	1s. 6⅝d.
Shanghai, T.T.	Tael	—	2s. 0⅛d.	2s. 0d.
Singapore, T.T.	Dollar	2s. 4d.	2s. 3⅜d.	2s. 3⅜d.
Kobe	Yen	24.58d.	2s. 0⅞d.	2s. 0⅞d.
New York, cable	Dol. to £	4.86⅜	4.86 3/16-.1/32	4.86⅜-.5/8
Montreal, cable	Dol. to £	4.86⅜	4.91 5/8-.3/4	4.91¾-.92
Rio de J., T.T.	Milreis	16d.	5⅞-5/16	5 15/16-6 1/16
Buenos A's, T.T.	Dollar	47.58d.	44 3/8-44 1/2	44 1/8-45 1/16
Valp'riso, 90d's	Pesos to £	40	39.80	39.80
Montevideo, T.T.	Dollar	51d.	44 5/8-45 1/8	45 1/4-45 3/4
Lima	£ to £P.	par	22⅜ prem.	25 3/4 prem.

REPORTS AND NOTICES.

BANK OF NEW SOUTH WALES.—Interim quarterly dividend declared of 10 per cent. per annum, payable February 27.

MEXICAN EAGLE OIL.—The London Financial Agents are advised that the production for the week ended January 25 was 253,000 barrels.

BOVRIL.—Net profits for 1929 were £390,717, as against £366,857 for the previous year and £360,524 for 1927. A final dividend of 8 per cent. is recommended on the Deferred shares, again making 13 per cent. for the year. It is proposed to place £60,000, as before, to reserve and a balance of £75,955, compared with £71,135, is to be carried forward.

MAIDENHEAD BRICK AND TILE.—Net profit for the year to September 30 amounted to £29,192, compared with £11,650. The directors recommend a final dividend of 10 per cent., making 17½ per cent. on the old and new preference shares, and a dividend of 90 per cent. on the old and new ordinary, as against 56 per cent. on the old ordinary last year. A balance of £1,398, compared with £1,031 is carried forward. General reserve has been increased from £3,695 to £37,109.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL INVESTMENT TRUST.—Revenue for the year to January 10 was £179,519 (against £160,015) after deducting income-tax. Including extraordinary revenue £7,092 the total is £186,607, and after deducting all expenses and debenture interest, there remained £117,987. A final dividend of 6 per cent. is proposed, making 10 per cent. for the year on the ordinary shares (same), writing down investments by £30,000 and carrying forward £45,753 compared with £45,638.

RYLANDS AND SONS.—Net profits for 1929 were £225,903. This compares with £199,351 for the previous year. Including £18,994 (against £42,248) brought in, the available balance is £244,902, as against £244,599. The directors recommend a final dividend of 4 per cent., making 8 per cent. for the year, the same as for 1928, carrying £20,902 forward. The reserve fund stands at £250,000 and the insurance contingency at £350,000, making a total reserve of £600,000. Paid-up Ordinary capital is £2,000,000.

GLASGOW STOCKHOLDERS TRUST.—Revenue for the year to January 2 was £66,718, compared with £36,197 for the first period from November 30, 1927, to January 2, 1929. Interest and income-tax absorbed £31,699, leaving net revenue at £32,020. After applying £1,330 in reduction of Debenture issue expenses and placing £5,000 to reserve, the directors recommend a balance dividend on the £200,000 Ordinary stock of 2½ per cent., making 5 per cent., and a dividend of 2½ per cent. on the £80,000 stock created in July last. The balance brought in is increased from £1,138 to £2,470. The market value of investments amounted to £1,222,677, as compared with the balance-sheet figure of £1,342,896.

ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS

Owing to pressure on our space, we have had to hold over a large number of "Answers to Correspondents." These will be sent through the post.

T. E. A.—Sell them all.

HIGHGATE.—Sell them all if you can.

CAMERONIAN.—Prefer to keep Imperial Chemicals.

BETTY.—Suggest you keep Scribbans and sell the others.

BULK.—Hold Cyprus Asbestos Preferred for recovery.

CABLE.—Would not sell any of these at present prices.

FAITH.—Advise you to employ a broker to execute the transfer.

QUESTOR.—Advise you to ignore these communications altogether.

SCARBOROUGH.—Would not sell any of these trustee investments.

D. B. M.—(1) A front-rank society. (2) Can be held until paid off.

RUSTICUS.—Cannot advise selling the Australian Bank shares at present prices.

CUBA.—(1) Would not buy either at present. (2) Prefer East Rand Proprietary.

B. C. D.—The remaining "life" of the Langlaagte is estimated at about fourteen years.

E. L. B.—The fall in price is due to reduced output and lower prices for oil.

T. A. C.—(1) to (4). Prefer to keep them all, and average Imperial Chemicals.

A. B. (Westminster).—Would keep Kreuger and Toll and Dennis Bros., and sell the others.

DEMOS.—Consider the guarantee sufficient, and would not sell at the present price.

LEGAL.—Drug Inc. are a good holding. Would take a small profit on the others when obtainable.

ECCLESTON.—New Zealand 4½ per cent. 1948-58 at 93 cum the dividend due March 1, might suit you.

W. B. (Moseley).—Better sell Nos. 1, 9, 10, 11, 12, and 13, and hold Nos. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and 14.

C. S. (Shrewsbury).—They are speculative, but the company is doing well and the shares should be kept. We should average at your price.

G. K.—Hold Courtaulds and average on any set-back. Risk keeping the other two for some recovery.

CONSTANT.—(1) and (2). Prefer to keep Snia Viscosa and Bradford Dyers for recovery. (3) Sell these.

ENSOR.—The position has changed since the autumn of 1928. At present they are a poor market. Keep them if you like.

G. D. G.—The National Salvage Association is described as dormant. Suggest you write to the Secretary, Sardinia House, Kingsway, W.C.2.

IRISHMAN.—It is not a good time to sell Dunlops as there has been forced liquidation. If you want an exchange suggest Courtaulds or Gramophones.

CLOVER.—Gordon Hotels dividend is paid in May. Would not look for more than the 5 per cent. paid last time. The shares are worth keeping.

E. M. (Oxford).—Whether Calgary Corporation shares recover will depend upon developments on the oil properties. They are quite speculative.

CAPELLA.—English Velvets are paying the same dividend as for the previous year, and should be held. Suggest you keep Bleachers and average if they fall further.

SHEFIELD.—Better sell Nos. 5 and 8. There is a chance of recovery in the case of Nos. 1 and 2, so would keep them. Nos. 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, and 10 are worth retaining.

A. F. M.—Columbias are understood to be supported by a pool while Gramophones have been affected by liquidation. Agree with you that the latter are cheaper.

C. H.—(1) You may place the fresh money in Conversion stock, leaving the War Loan as it is. (2) Brazil 4½ per cent. 1883 is a reasonable investment.

CYMRO (Bath).—There has been no amalgamation, but merely an agreement for joint working of certain parts of the business. As a lock-up they are worth keeping.

R. B. M.—War Loan 5 per cent. stock is free of tax to residents abroad, and also Funding 4 per cent. These, with Canadian Pacific Railway 4 per cent. Debenture stock and 4 per cent. Preference, would probably suit you best.

W. B. W. (Stafford).—Many thanks for your letter and appreciation.—Editor.

AMERICAN COTTON

FURTHER RALLY IN PRICES.

EXCLUSIVE CABLE TO THE "SUNDAY TIMES."

NEW YORK, Saturday.

The steady decline in the past week, carrying prices nearly a cent and a-half in March contracts, and to the lowest levels since June, 1927, had been accompanied with such general liquidation that the market developed a greater degree of steadiness as March approached 16 cents yesterday. With a slight further rally to-day professional operators were inclined to cover after the most severe decline for some time, though there were no signs of a radical change in the situation beyond that due to placing the price level on a healthier basis.

A rally of four cents in wheat and less selling pressure from the South created a quieter market. Memphis reports a large amount of mill-price fixing on the decline, but the market is unsettled by the frequent reports from the Farm Board. Several Senators have criticised the Farm Board chairman for saying that the board had no intention of supporting wheat and the cotton market. The absence of activity is deplored by many Southern Senators.

Conservative sentiment in cotton circles is inclined to the view that the attitude of the board in the present emergency is evidence of the same policy as showing that the board intends to secure a lower production, and thus to limit the supply rather than to attempt the artificial stimulus of prices.

NEW YORK, Saturday.

Cotton opened steady and 1 point to 5 points higher. The market ruled steadier and values advanced on better Liverpool cables, week-end covering, and trade price-fixing. The firmness of the Wheat and Stock markets and an absence of aggressive selling were further factors for the rise, and the close was steady at 15 to 8 points gain. Spot steady and 15 points higher. At New Orleans futures opened 6 to 5 points up and closed 13 to 16 points dearer. Spot showed 17 points improvement.

Highest and lowest prices in the last twenty seconds of trading:—Southern States delivery contract:—February, 16.28-16.28; March, 16.38-16.37; April, 16.48-16.48; May, 16.60-16.59; June, 16.70-16.70; July, 16.83-16.82; August, 16.88-16.88; September, 16.95-16.95; October, 17.03-17.02; November, 17.08-17.08; December, 17.15-17.15; January, 17.23-17.23. Middling Spot, 16.50.

Highest and lowest prices in the last minute of trading at New Orleans:—March, 16.21-16.19; May, 16.46-16.45. Middling spot, 16.06.—*Reuter.*

LIVERPOOL, Saturday.

American futures opened 3 to 4 points higher, but the advance was checked by scattered selling. Later in the morning, however, offerings were smaller, and with Continental buying and good trade calling, prices again improved, the market closing steady with values about 9 to 7 points higher on

COMPANY MEETINGS.

WESTMINSTER BANK.

FEATURES OF YEAR'S BUSINESS—43 NEW BRANCHES OPENED.

TENDENCIES OF HOME INDUSTRIES REVIEWED.

COTTON TRADE ESSENTIALS.

LONDON'S INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL FUNCTIONS.

VALUE TO THE COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC LIFE.

MR. R. HUGH TENNANT'S ADDRESS.

The annual general meeting of the Westminster Bank, Ltd., was held on Wednesday at the head office, Lothbury, London, E.C.

MR. R. HUGH TENNANT (the chairman) presided.

The notice convening the meeting and the auditors' report having been read by the SECRETARY (Mr. F. Mytton), the directors' report, the balance-sheet and profit and loss account were taken as read.

The CHAIRMAN said: My lords, ladies and gentlemen,—Before passing on to the figures of the balance-sheet, I must express my deep regret at the loss of two of our esteemed colleagues, both of whom have had almost life-long connections with the bank. Mr. Sturgis had been a most active director for forty-five years, and almost to the day of his death he had continued to share our duties. Colonel Goodden, who was the chairman of Stuckey's Bank at the time of its amalgamation with Parr's Bank, brought with him a unique knowledge of the business and traditions of an old-established and honoured West Country banking firm. On the other hand, I am sure you will all welcome the return of Viscount Goschen to the Board on his completing a successful term of office as Governor of Madras. (Applause.) Lord Goschen, as you all know, was chairman of the London County and Westminster Bank from 1909 to 1917, and was a director of the bank until his departure for India in 1924.

I much regret to have to report the retirement of one our general managers, Mr. F. W. Ingall, who has reached the age limit this month. Mr. Ingall joined the staff of Parr's Bank in 1881, and, after being manager of Bartholomew-lane office for seven years, became a general manager in 1920. He has been a most valuable official of the bank, highly popular both with our customers and with his colleagues, and we shall miss him greatly. I sincerely hope he may long live to enjoy his well-earned leisure. (Hear, hear.)

THE BANK'S BALANCE-SHEET.

Coming now to the bank's balance-sheet: On the liabilities side our money lodged shows a decrease of over £8,000,000. When telling you last year that this item had increased by over £13,000,000, I stated that the end of the year frequently showed large money movements up or down of a transitory character. This year the movement happens to have been down. Our average figures, however, throughout the year were several millions higher than those of a year ago, and the employment of this additional money is reflected in our profit and loss account. Our acceptances, endorsements, etc., are about £1,000,000 higher.

Turning now to the assets side of the balance-sheet, there is little change in the cash in hand and at call. The bills discounted, however, show a diminution of about £4,000,000—an ordinary market fluctuation. Our advances to customers are about £2,000,000 less than at the 31st December, 1928, a small variation which does not call for comment.

INVESTMENTS.

The item of Investments, though not substantially changed in total, shows an increase in "Other investments" of about £1,000,000.

In this amount there is one item which calls for remark—namely, a holding of Six per Cent. Debentures in an English company—the B.I. Holding Company, Ltd. These debentures are secured on the value of sundry Italian investments. Our participation in this English company originated in a scheme supported by influential interests to maintain the solvency of a small bank in Italy—the Banca Italo-Britannica—whose continued weakness might have had some detrimental effect on the London bill market. We had only an indirect interest in this Italian venture through a shareholding in its parent company—the British Italian Banking Corporation, Ltd.—but, in conjunction with other important financial houses, we felt constrained, in the interests of British credit, to lend our aid in support of the scheme. Our commitment in this connection has been fully provided for; and the investment—written down to the figure of £453,143—is one which we have every hope will ultimately realise a surplus on the value assigned to it.

Shareholdings in subsidiary companies remain at about £3,000,000, a figure represented by our holdings in the Ulster Bank and the Westminster Foreign Bank. In each case we consider that the figure in the balance-sheet is substantially below the intrinsic value.

Our bank premises account now stands in the balance-sheet at just over £5,000,000. We have opened 43 new branches during the year, and many other branches have been rebuilt or extended. The rebuilding of our Threadneedle-street office and the expenditure on our head office rebuilding up to date have been entirely written off, but I fear the latter will not be completed for some considerable time yet.

ALLOCATION OF PROFITS.

The profits for the past year at £2,160,000 are some £12,000 higher than last year. After reserving £1,356,000 for the payment of a dividend similar to that of 1928, we have allocated £250,000 to bank premises, £200,000 to the officers' pension fund (as in former years), and £400,000 to contingent fund, leaving £506,000 to be carried forward to the next account—about £45,000 less than brought in.

Before, however, leaving the affairs of our bank to deal with the general trade position, I desire to refer briefly to the Hatry case, which, owing to the perpetration of frauds and forgeries of a quite unprecedented character, has attracted much public attention.

We, among other banks, have been victims of these frauds which were carried out by means of documents which neither banker nor broker nor any member of the public would ever dream of suspecting of being otherwise than genuine.

From reports which have reached me, it appears to be imagined (1) that we advanced money to the companies of the Hatry group, not for the purposes of trade, but to enable them to indulge in gambling transactions; and (2) that no sufficient investigation was made as to the security for the advances, or that advances were made on worthless shares.

Now as to (1); in each case the money was advanced for a perfectly legitimate purpose and no suggestion was made that the advance was required for supporting the share market; and as to (2), a thorough investigation was made, and we have documentary evidence to prove that in the absence of fraud the security was undoubted.

For the purposes of our accounts we have provided for any possible losses we may make, and thanks to the profitable character of the year's working our contingent fund is now larger than it was at the beginning of last year. (Hear, hear.) In this connection I should state that not only have we been in the habit of making very full provisions, but we not infrequently make large recoveries of debts we have previously provided for.

I hope these remarks will enable shareholders to form a better judgment of these unfortunate transactions than was possible from the necessarily imperfect and abridged reports of the preliminary hearings.

INDUSTRIAL POSITION ANALYSED.

I propose now to turn from the affairs of our own institution to consider some of the broader aspects of the present economic position of our country. Of British industry as a whole it may at least be claimed that, if no spectacular progress was made in 1929, the general trend was in the right direction—with the important exception of the cotton trade. Though the army of unemployed remained around the disquieting total of 1,300,000, approximately 200,000 more workers were in employment at the end of the year than at the beginning, while according to the calculations of the Board of Trade, the national output in the September quarter was no less than 10 per cent. above the level of twelve months earlier. I venture to commend to your serious attention the detailed figures of the Board's computations, which are appended. These are given for the full year 1928 and for the September quarters of 1928 and 1929 (the latter being the most recent issued), together with the average of the first three quarters of 1929, which I have had worked out.

From the figures in another column you will observe that while the mining, textile and leather industries remain depressed the engineering and shipbuilding trades have increased their output by 21 per cent. during the past five years, the chemical trades by 12½ per cent., the non-ferrous metal trades by nearly 20 per cent., the iron and steel trades by 14 per cent., and the food, drink and tobacco trades by 6 per cent. Let us remember that last year's share of the recovery was achieved in the face of higher rates for money than in any other year since 1921, depression on the Stock Exchange, and a partially frozen new issue market in which even the strongest companies found difficulty in satisfying their requirements for fresh capital during the later months of the year. Let us remember, further, that 1929 was marked by a General Election and a change of Government, and that, while it witnessed the practical inception of a de-rating scheme which may have far-reaching effects on industry in the future, it afforded no relief from the immediate burden of national taxation. That the country's production advanced despite all these discouraging influences was a distinctly gratifying achievement which reflects the essential soundness of our financial and industrial structure.

COTTON.

In the cotton trade the year opened with some promise, but from February onwards the trend of business was distinctly downward, and the general depression of 1929 was even more pronounced than that of 1928. Yarn production has receded to barely two-thirds of the pre-war output, and the volume of piece goods exported is little more than 50 per cent. of their pre-war scale.

I will not discuss the bearing of hostile tariffs, foreign shipping subsidies and the occasional embarrassing boycotts which beset our export trade; these impediments are more or less political in character. In face of intense foreign competition, it is becoming increasingly difficult for cotton manufacturers in certain grades to work at a profit; and in a trade so diversified, statistics alone show the trend of markets and the measure and character of the displacement of Manchester soft goods. But what concerns us most particularly is that what I may call the "bread and butter" output from the Lancashire mills is unable, by quite 10 per cent., to compete with world prices. The present position is that, while in both the American and Egyptian sections the production of specialities and finer lines can be worked to a profit, the bulk of the medium and lower grades cannot.

IMPORTANCE OF CO-ORDINATION AND SCIENTIFIC RATIONALISATION.

The two competitive advantages which Lancashire possesses in the inherited skill of the operatives and a climate specially suitable for cotton spinning are diminishing, owing to the increasing skill of her rivals, now aided by up-to-date textile and "air-humidifying" machinery. It should be borne in mind, however, that both in the readjustment of loom arrangements and in the technique of mixing cotton with silk and rayon much good work has been done during the past year. But without a much greater co-ordination of individual producers, followed by scientific rationalisation, the problem confronting Lancashire will not be solved. To this end the scheme of the Lancashire Cotton Corporation still holds the field. During its year of existence this corporation has come to an agreement with 75 companies, controlling some 7,250,000 spindles and 20,000 looms, and it is understood that possibly 20 more companies will join, bringing the total of spindles up to 10,000,000. The development of this project will be watched with considerable interest, and its success will be a great stimulus to the cotton industry.

The Egyptian section—apart from special and finer lines—has not had a satisfactory year. Here, too, the pressure of increasing foreign competition has made itself felt. This section, however, is better placed to meet the position than the American side, as it has not been exhausted by long depression, and has at once grasped the need of reorganisation. With this objective, a syndicate called the Combined Egyptian Mills, Ltd., was formed in the early part of last year, and now controls over 3,000,000 spindles. Other schemes of a similar nature (embracing the manufacturing side also) are under consideration.

Like the Lancashire Cotton Corporation, the Combined Egyptian Mills company is of too recent origin to have made any effective impression on the difficulties confronting a section of the trade which has been for so long in British hands. The ground lost should not be irrecoverable if all-round efficiency and economy are combined with large-scale production and scientific salesmanship.

OTHER TEXTILE INDUSTRIES.

For the wool textile industry the year was one of disappointment, the decline in the price of its raw material, though a factor making for an improved position in the long run, having exercised an embarrassing and restrictive influence for the time being. The newest of the large-scale textile industries, artificial silk—which with its sister industry "natural silk" now affords employment to some 65,000 persons—recorded a fresh advance in output, but at no time in its history was competition so keen or the effect on profits so severe.

AGRICULTURE.

For British agriculture the year was one of extremes—extreme frost in the early months, extreme dryness in the summer, and extreme precipitation in the autumn. The effect of these conditions upon pastures and meadows was decidedly unfavourable, while a satisfactory cereal harvest brought less than its due share of benefit to the farmer, by reason of low market prices. The entry into this country of supplies from abroad under conditions which, in some cases, could by no stretch of imagination be regarded as normal or legitimate, accentuated his difficulties.

COAL.

Last year I remarked that in its deep depression the coal industry might well have at last come down to a bedrock foundation upon which a solid structure could slowly be built up again. I think that events in 1929 have justified this view. Production during the year totalled about 261 million tons, which bears favourable comparison with 238 millions in 1928 and 251 millions in 1927. Exports are similarly encouraging, as the figures show:—

*Exports of coal.

	Tons.	Value.
1927	51,149,193 ...	£45,530,795
1928	50,051,195 ...	£39,058,734
1929	60,266,618 ...	£48,616,813

With the Coal Mines Bill now under consideration by Parliament, I feel that I must be sparing in my remarks, although in passing it strikes me as ironical that a Bill introduced by a Socialist Government should be opposed by Conservatives and Liberals alike mainly on the ground that it is too favourable to the coalowners!

In my view, rather too much stress is being laid upon compulsory amalgamation. Although such a movement may in many instances bring substantial benefits, an up-to-date pit producing, say, 1,000,000 tons per annum, may easily be hampered, rather than helped, by enforced linking-up with other units less favourably placed. This is a danger which, however, rationalisation carried out in its strict interpretation would, of course, overcome. On the other hand, I consider that for marketing purposes some form of co-operation is essential.

IRON AND STEEL.

In spite of all handicaps—and it would be foolish to belittle them—the iron and steel industries are putting up a good fight. In 1929 some progress was made, and markets were being extended both at home and overseas. 1930 opens therefore with a degree of sober optimism.

So far as the production of pig-iron and steel is concerned, last year's figures are the best for many years past. Further, it is encouraging to note that while world production of these items showed increases of 11½ per cent. and 11 per cent. respectively, the figures for the United Kingdom were somewhat higher, at 15 per cent. and 13 per cent. Even so, we were working at much below our full capacity—at about 65 per cent. in the case of pig-iron, and 75 per cent. in the case of steel. A most serious factor has been the considerable increases in cost of our raw materials—ore and coke—which are several shillings in advance of last year's prices.

Despite the increased activity, the financial results of most of our leading iron and steel companies have been insufficient to yield any dividend on their Ordinary shares. This is in marked contrast with the position on the Continent, where dividends have usually been distributed on an increased scale. Another significant point is the ability of our Continental rivals to provide out of revenue for extensions and renewals, whereas at home sufficient profits are not being earned to enable any such allocation to be made. Rationalisation proceeds but slowly here as compared with abroad, where lower wages, lower overhead charges and lower taxation operate so advantageously.

SHIPBUILDING AND ENGINEERING.

Though shipbuilding suffered no such setback as in the previous year, it is a regrettable fact that one in every four of its insured workers remained on the unemployment list. The engineering trades registered a distinct improvement on the whole, especially in the electrical, locomotive and textile branches, while the motor industry, despite the prevalence of strongly competitive conditions, resumed the advance which a year ago had been temporarily checked.

SHIPPING.

After a not unpromising start, the shipping trade was overtaken by serious depression in the later months of the year, attributable mainly to the decline in shipments of wheat, actual and prospective, from the New World to the Old. This falling-off arose from the relatively large harvests in Europe and the much less satisfactory yields obtained in the great wheat-growing areas overseas. At the same time, it is difficult to avoid the conclusion that the supply of the world's tonnage is still largely in excess of effective demand. To this condition is due, in the long run, the disparity which exists in many cases between the price of shipping facilities and those of other commodities and services, as judged by pre-war standards.

Outside the domain of industry, the year's outstanding achievements were the formulation of arrangements for the final removal of the German reparations question from the dangerous sphere of politics to the more appropriate field of finance, and the liquidation of other outstanding international legacies of the Great War.

WIDESPREAD EFFECTS OF U.S.A. SPECULATION.

This brief recital has revealed many tendencies which may justly be regarded as matters for congratulation. I have purposely refrained from alluding until now to a factor which has proved more particularly reassuring to the City of London—the success with which the financial machinery of this country has withstood a period of the gravest international stress and strain. I need not here recount the various stages of the phenomenal speculative movement in security values in the United States of America, and its reflection on a smaller scale on Stock Exchange conditions in every European country. Nor do I propose to dwell upon the causes of the catastrophic break in Wall Street prices last autumn, when American Industrial shares lost on the average from one-third to one-half of their "paper" values within the space of a few days. The effects of such a movement must necessarily be widespread. British investors have, in their turn, suffered serious loss during the costly, though less spectacular, Stock Exchange reaction here, which incidentally began at a much earlier date than in America. The numerous failures associated with new and speculative concerns or with particular financiers have been a disquieting feature of the year's history. But, while frankly facing this situation, let us not fail to recognise the important fact that, on the whole, London has emerged very creditably from a most trying ordeal. (Hear, hear.)

LONDON AS AN INTERNATIONAL MONEY CENTRE.

The course of affairs in the sphere of international finance, and the part played by London as an international monetary centre during the past very difficult year, form a topic of such outstanding interest, not merely to the banker but to the whole world of business, that I propose to select this as the main theme of my address to you to-day. There are two main reasons why I do so. In the first place, it is no exaggeration to say that the year 1929 has been the most critical and testing period for London's position as an international money centre since the outbreak of the Great War. Secondly, the very fact of the strain placed upon London by her successful efforts to maintain that position has given rise in certain quarters to a complaint and to a questioning—a complaint that the interests of British industrial production and trade are being sacrificed in order to maintain London's international position, and a questioning whether the maintenance of that position is sufficiently important to make such supposed sacrifice worth while.

Three stages are necessary to the examination of this problem: First, to review the reasons for the international strain exerted upon London and the way in which London withstood it; second, to assess the value to the economic life of the whole country of the international financial functions which London performs; and, finally, to consider what foundation there may be for the complaint and the questioning to which I have just referred. The subject is, of course, a big one, but I will endeavour to lay before you the essential facts and to suggest the conclusions which, in my view, may properly and confidently be drawn from them.

FUNDAMENTAL CAUSE OF FINANCIAL STRAIN.

The fundamental cause of the strain to which the Money markets of the world were subjected last year must be sought on the other side of the Atlantic. New York, which in preceding years had been an increasingly important partner of Great Britain in financing the reconstruction of Europe, entirely reversed her role. During the greater part of the year, until the abrupt transformation which took place in the autumn, New York persistently drew to herself funds from all other monetary centres. Owing to the intense speculative activity in Wall Street, we witnessed the phenomenon of the country possessing a very large proportion of the world's gold stocks offering the highest rates for money; and the magnet functioned irresistibly. Stock Exchange activity in Europe increased the strain. London, in addition to having funds employed in New York, was called upon to make temporary advances to Germany, while France steadily recalled a considerable part of the extensive balances which she had maintained here. The huge drift of funds across the Atlantic, the large-scale repatriation of French balances and the withdrawal of America as a financier of Germany, together imposed a strain unequalled in recent years; and London, facing her vast international liabilities with a gold reserve only one-quarter of that of the Federal Reserve System, or one-half of that of the Bank of France, was forced to protect her dwindling gold supply by raising Bank Rate from 4½ per cent. to 5½ per cent. in February, and again from 5½ per cent. to 6½ per cent. in September. Then came relief of the tension. The bubble of speculation in America and in Europe burst. Wall Street ceased to act as a magnet, and the Bank of England was quickly able to reduce its rate by successive stages to 5 per cent. Nevertheless, it is some evidence of the strain through which London passed that the Bank of England gold reserve, although only £7,000,000 lower on 31st December than on 1st January, 1929, had in the meantime fluctuated by as much as £34,000,000 from the highest point reached in June to the lowest in October.

LONDON'S UNIMPAIRED CREDIT AND ENHANCED PRESTIGE.

Glancing back over the year, it is permissible to congratulate ourselves that London's financial machine has emerged from the test with unimpaired credit and enhanced international prestige. (Hear, hear.)

But it is at this point that the industrialist and the trader enter their complaint. What you have been describing, they will say, is exactly what we are grumbling at—namely, that London's efforts to maintain her international position in a time of strain, entail sacrifice on our part through the imposition of high rates for borrowed money, which often transform a small profit into a loss, and in some unfortunate industries are the last straw which breaks the camel's back. Now that is the position which I wish to meet.

First and foremost, it is unfair to place upon the British monetary and financial system the responsibility for the damage done by a great international monetary upheaval, which, after all, London did its best to check. Equally unfair is it to lay stress upon domestic sacrifices resulting from a wholly abnormal period, without examining such concrete and lasting benefits as may accrue in normal times.

CONTRIBUTIONS TO NATIONAL INCOME.

I doubt whether the general public is aware of the contribution made by London's international financial business to the national income and the wealth of this country. Figures illustrating this contribution must necessarily partake, to some extent, of the nature of guesswork. The Board of Trade, after wide inquiry, have obtained sufficient data to give us a rough picture. [See Table No. 2.] Their experts estimate that in 1928 the earnings of London as an international centre accounted for £65 millions out of the £149 millions of the balance in favour of this country. In 1927 the figure was put at £63 millions out of a total favourable balance of £114 millions, while in 1926 Britain's final balance of international payments would actually have shown a large deficit had it not been for the £60 millions under this head. Such figures as these, approximate though they are, reveal the very important dimensions of the part played in British economic life by London's international functions.

Let us look at it in another way. Much is constantly and rightly heard of Britain's great export industries, by which is meant those great industries which show a favourable balance in their dealings with the rest of the world. The fact deserves emphasis that the net export balance of what I will call the "financial industry" is between £60 and £70 millions per annum. It therefore ranks as one of our greatest export industries.

"AN ESSENTIAL FACTOR IN OUR TRADE BALANCE."

But these figures tell only one-half of the story. The Board of Trade table shows that our "income from overseas investments" totals £285,000,000 a year. This is an essential factor in our trade balance. The securities which yield this income have been accumulated during many past years, as a result of long-term loans by British citizens to foreign countries. The process still continues. London as an international financial centre has played a large part in finding opportunities for such investments, providing the machinery for their emission, filling the gap between the time when the foreign borrowers require the money and the time when the British investor is prepared to furnish it, providing facilities for the transfer of such securities, safeguarding holders' interests after their emission, and so on. In practice, this policy has given positive and most important benefits to British productive industry. Foreign borrowers have frequently used a large share of the proceeds of loans in the placing of orders with British manufacturers. Judiciously made, such loans enhance the wealth and purchasing power of overseas borrowing countries. That foreign lending may be abused, and in some cases overdone, should not detract from a proper appreciation of its invaluable services to the community.

COMPLEX AND SPECIALISED FINANCIAL MACHINERY.

Even this is not all. Overseas trade—which, let us not forget, is the life-blood of this country—calls for complex and specialised financial machinery in which separate but essential parts are played by banks, accepting houses, discount houses, foreign exchange brokers and others, each with its own connections established in every large centre in the world. Without these facilities overseas commerce might not be impossible, but it would be a far more hazardous and tardy process for the trader. In London's machine of international finance the British trader has at his beck and call facilities more efficacious than those available in any other country.

If we were to awaken to-morrow and find that London had ceased to function as an international centre, it is clear that we should have to face a situation in which British trade and the national wealth would be very much worse off than they are at present. The figures that I have given suggest the scope of the definite losses which would be involved. Is it possible that there could result for British industry any compensating gain?

GOLD STANDARD AND BRITISH TRADE.

It is, of course, utterly inconceivable that London should suddenly abandon her international business, but there are some who appear to think that those who guide our monetary and credit system should concentrate their resources more in the development of British industry and less in international finance. But it is never quite clear what precise measures critics of the present system would suggest. It cannot seriously be proposed at this stage that Great Britain should abandon the gold standard. For such procedure would not only shatter British credit in every country of the world but would also lead the world back into that chaos of exchange fluctuations which, in the post-war period, provided one of the most stubborn obstacles to trade recovery. A less impossible suggestion is that steps might be taken to place unofficial but effective obstacles in the way of those who wish to withdraw gold. This covert half-and-half abandonment of the gold standard has indeed been tried by some countries. It is true that if the expedient were adopted here the national gold reserve might show less fluctuation, but it is certain that foreign institutions would be unwilling to place their temporary floating reserves for short-term investment in London to anything like the present extent. Their willingness to do so now under full gold standard conditions is due to their complete confidence that they can withdraw their balances, should need arise, immediately, without condition and without difficulty, and if they wish it in the form of gold, which is the only universally accepted medium.

BANKS AND INDUSTRY.

Those overseas deposits in London are, in the aggregate, of very large dimensions at any given moment. They go to swell the total fund of credit in the country, in which all share, including the manufacturer. The inconvenience caused by the French withdrawal of their balances last year itself indicates how large those deposits may be. If London ceases to be a repository for the world's spare resources, the rates paid by British industrialists for accommodation may fluctuate less frequently, but on the average they will be appreciably higher than those now prevailing.

By what means could British industry be compensated for this damaging result? To this question some thinkers on banking and credit subjects have two answers to make. The first is to suggest what is in reality inflation of credit, with which subject I dealt at some length in my speech to you last year. The second answer is that the British banks should extend their activities to providing home industry with fixed as well as working capital, and should interest themselves financially in company formations, after the manner of certain Continental banking systems. There is one definite obstacle which prevents British banks, as at present constituted, from pursuing this line of development. Unlike Continental banks, they are mainly deposit institutions, and are not in a position to lock up in long-term industrial investments funds which are, for the most part, liable to be withdrawn practically on demand. It may be argued that this fundamental difficulty should not be allowed to impede the development of any movement likely to be of benefit to the national well-being. It remains to find a way out of the difficulty, and this may perhaps lie in the formation of new institutions for this specific purpose.

THE MAIN CONCLUSION.

I have endeavoured in this brief review to lead up to this main conclusion: That in spite of the abnormal conditions of the past year, London's position as an international centre is not only indispensable to the country's international balance-sheet, but is also of definite assistance both to overseas trade and to home industry, and that it cannot be replaced by any other system so far devised. (Hear, hear.) Do not suppose for that reason that any banker imagines the present system is perfect beyond all hope of improvement. Critics may rightly urge that the interests of domestic industry should always be kept to the forefront, especially in times when there is danger of possible over-lending abroad. They may urge, too, that money rates should not be changed more frequently than is absolutely inevitable, and that every effort should be made by co-operation among central banks to avoid international competition for the world's supplies of gold.

All these subjects will, I believe, receive the increasing attention of British bankers, and, one cannot doubt, will be among the important subjects discussed by the banking inquiry which has recently been set up by the Chancellor of the Exchequer. What that inquiry may recommend I do not venture to forecast, but of one thing I am certain, that their report will take due cognisance of the vast importance to this country of the City of London's international functions and of the necessity to our economic well-being of maintaining her world-wide credit and prestige. (Applause.)

The CHAIRMAN then moved the adoption of the report and accounts, and the HON. RUPERT E. BECKETT seconded the resolution.

MR. E. T. HARGRAVES said that all the shareholders must be indebted to Mr. Tennant for his able and interesting address and for the manner in which he had exhaustively dealt with the subjects selected for comment. For his own part, and he was sure the shareholders would agree with him, the address had entirely reassured him and he was perfectly satisfied that the Chairman and his colleagues had exercised wise discretion in giving the shareholders the desired information without going into too much detail. He was quite certain that the total of losses to which their Chairman had referred had not been caused by any laxity on the part of any official, but that they arose in circumstances which, in his long experience of 67 years, had never occurred and were not likely to recur during the remainder of his life. As to the point whether the banks might do more than they were doing at present to facilitate industry generally, he quite agreed that it would be undesirable for the banks, in any measure, to follow the plan of Continental banks in becoming partners in industry qua industry; it was no part of the banks to find fixed capital. Fixed capital ought always to be found by traders themselves. (Applause.)

The resolution was then carried unanimously.

The retiring directors were re-elected and Messrs. Turquand Youngs and Co., Messrs. Kemp Chatteris Nichols Sendell and Co., Messrs. Price Waterhouse and Co., and Messrs. Stead Taylor and Stead were re-appointed auditors for the year 1930.

MR. FREDERICK TOMKINSON proposed a vote of thanks to the directors for the able manner in which they had conducted the affairs of the Bank.

To a vote of thanks to the staff for their admirable work during the past year, MR. JOHN RAE (director and chief general manager) responded. Other formal votes were carried, and the proceedings terminated.

TABLE No. 1—INDEX OF PRODUCTION.
1924 (the first census of production since the war)=100.

GROUP.	Year 1928.	Sept. quarter, 1928.	Sept. quarter, 1929.	Average of first three quarters of 1929.
1. Mines & quarries	89.2	83.2	94.4	95.3
2. Iron and steel, and manufactures thereof ...	102.3	97.4	113.7	114 3
3. Non-ferrous metals	119.3	109.9	114.6	119.7
4. Engineering and shipbuilding.....	112.1	107.9	118.3	121.1
5. Textiles	99.9	91.9	91.2	97.5
6. Chemical & allied trades	110.3	103.3	117.5	112.5
7. Paper & printing	a	a	a	a
8. Leather and boots and shoes	102.0	90.9	95.2	98.7
9. Food, drink and tobacco	101.9	105.1	111.8	106.1
10. Gas & electricity	b126.0	b	b	b
Total of manuf'ct'ring industries (*2-10)...	109.4	104.6	114.4	114.8
Total of all groups (*1-10)	105.5	100.2	110.3	110.8

* Including also various industries not specified above. *a*. Adequate information in respect of the paper and printing trades has not up to the present been available. The particulars received, which cover about 40 per cent. of the net output of those trades in 1924, have been included in the general index. *b*. No information is available as to the quantities of gas made in each quarter. The provisional figures obtained by the Electricity Commissioners regarding the electrical energy generated by authorised undertakings show that in the first nine months of the present year 7,290 million units were generated, as against 6,395 millions in the first nine months of 1928, and 4,342 millions in the first nine months of 1924. The available data for electricity have been included in the general index numbers.

TABLE No. 2. (From the *Board of Trade Journal*, 28th February, 1929).

BALANCES OF INCOME AND EXPENDITURE IN THE TRANSACTIONS (OTHER THAN LENDING AND REPAYMENT OF CAPITAL) BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM & ALL OTHER COUNTRIES.
(In million £'s.)

PARTICULARS.	1926.	1927.	1928.
Excess of imports of merchandise and bullion.....	475	390	359
Estimated excess of Government receipts from overseas *a*	4	1	13
Estimated net national shipping income *b*	120	140	130
Estimated net income from overseas investments	285	285	285
Estimated net receipts from short interest & commission (*i.e.*, from London's services as a Money market)	60	63	65
Estimated net receipts from other sources	15	15	15
Total	484	504	508
Estimated total credit balance on items specified above ...	9	114	149

a Including some items on loan accounts. *b* Including disbursements by foreign ships in British ports.

COMPANY MEETINGS.

MARTINS BANK LIMITED.

YEAR'S SATISFACTORY RESULTS.

BANKS AND REORGANISATION.

REVIEW OF TRADE FEATURES.

"NATIONAL PROSPERITY DEPENDS ON THE NORTH."

The ninety-ninth annual meeting of shareholders of Martins Bank Limited, was held at the Exchange Hotel, Liverpool, on Tuesday, January 28. Mr. A. Allan Paton, C.B., the chairman, presided over a large attendance.

The Chairman referred to the loss by death of Sir Aubrey Brocklebank, a deputy chairman, and the severance by his passing away of a family connection which had existed since 1833. The vacancy on the Board had been filled by the appointment of Mr. A. Harold Bibby, of Messrs. Bibby Brothers and Co.

INCREASED PROFITS.

Dealing with the balance sheet, the chairman said the net profit for the year amounted to £836,239, which compared with £825,434 a year ago. Including £111,499 brought forward, the disposable balance was £947,738, out of which the Board proposed that £100,000 should be applied in reduction of the Premises Account, which would then stand at £2,198,648. The Board also proposed to place £50,000 to reserve, bringing that fund up to £3,507,872, and to pay the usual dividend of 16 per cent., which would absorb £665,607, leaving £132,131 to be carried forward to the next account. In these difficult times they might fairly congratulate themselves on such results.

SUBSTANTIAL RESOURCES.

Drawing attention to the substantial amount of the Bank's resources, the chairman said the capital, reserve fund and profit and loss account together totalled £8,132,849, and, deducting the half-year's dividend of £332,803, the satisfactory figure of £7,800,046 remained.

Current, deposit and other accounts stood at £82,620,493 against £82,932,881 a year ago, while, by a coincidence, loans and advances appeared also to be less by about the same amount at £42,246,172, showing a ratio of 51 per cent. to the deposits. Actually, items now shown separately but formerly grouped under the heading of "Advances to Customers and Other Accounts" amounted to £1,696,559, so that in fact the loans had increased by £1,342,253.

Cash in hand and balances with the Bank of England (equivalent to cash) amounted to £10,332,181, or a ratio of 12.5 per cent. to liabilities to depositors. Money at call and short notice and balances with British banks, plus cheques in course of collection, amounted to £8,951,988, and combining this with the cash figures they got a total of £19,284,169 or a ratio of 23.3 per cent. to liabilities.

Premises had been liberally written down and were worth more than the figure at which they stood, but it was prudent to continue the policy of depreciation. Mention was made in the report of fourteen new offices which they had arranged to open.

BANKS AND INDUSTRY.

Referring to the appointment by the Government of a committee to inquire into Banking, Finance and Credit, he said in view of much ill-informed criticism, bankers generally welcomed the appointment of such a committee, and would await with interest as well as confidence the result of their deliberations. The frank statements recently made at Manchester by the Right Hon. J. H. Thomas would have helped to dispel the erroneous idea that the banks do not assist trade and commerce as they should.

They learned with satisfaction from Mr. Thomas of the willingness of the City to assist in the reconstruction of depressed industries. The banks were willing to play their part, but it must be remembered that the accepted banking practice precluded any investment of their funds in the capital of industrial undertakings.

The banks could only act as intermediaries between those who undertook a financial reconstruction and the public who eventually subscribed the necessary capital from their accumulated savings.

If this re-organisation took place and industry was placed once more on a sound competitive basis, credit would be plentiful and they could hope to see export trade revive.

With regard to the frequent allegation that the needs of the small trader and manufacturer were not adequately met, it was useful to repeat an analysis given from the chair in previous years. The analysis in question showed that out of 31,308 overdrawn accounts on their books at the end of the year, no fewer than 26,743 were in debt less than £1,000, while, of the remainder, 3,288 were overdrawn by amounts varying from £1,000 to £5,000.

REACTION IN NEW YORK.

The year would be memorable for the world-wide difficulties created by the speculative fever in America, culminating in the Wall Street collapse last October. The speculation assumed the dimensions of an international problem towards the end of 1928, when Wall Street attracted fluid capital from all parts of the world and America definitely ceased to be a lending country. An outflow of gold commenced from London, and the Bank of England raised its rate by stages, until the high rate of 6½ per cent. was imposed in September. It was probable that the determined action of the Bank constituted the first step towards pricking the bubble of speculation. When the reaction came the repercussions were felt in every market, but this country, in spite of its own troubles, stood the strain well.

The position created by the Hatry affair was being straightened out with the help of the banks. Martins Bank thought it proper, in the general as well as their own interests, to contribute their proportion to the Guarantee Fund which had been raised. Failing such help a serious state of affairs might have developed, with widespread reactions on credit in general.

Gold was flowing into the country, and a specially satisfactory feature was that the French demand, which had been abnormal in consequence of the French banks and private individuals requiring to draw on their foreign balances, appeared to have diminished.

An interesting development in connection with the payment of reparations by Germany had been the projected establishment of a Bank for International Settlements. Precisely how the new bank would function was not yet clear, but it was hoped it might be a steadying factor of considerable influence.

In this country, the new Companies Act which came into force on November 1 was a decided step in the right direction, and would help to protect unwary investors from the unscrupulous company promoter.

COTTON TRADE ADVERSITY.

Reviewing home trade, the chairman said it was idle to pretend it was doing more than holding its own, and in saying this he could not include the cotton industry, which had suffered a further reverse during the past year.

Results in the American section of the cotton trade had been disastrous, since a capital of £47,000,000 had earned a profit of little over 1 per cent. In the weaving section, excluding those engaged in specialities, while a few had made small profits the losses of others had been heavy.

The British manufacturer had to face increasing competition from countries provided with up-to-date machinery and equipment, and employing cheaper labour free from any restrictions. The claim that the humidity of Lancashire was a factor placing her ahead of competitors no longer held good, as by mechanical devices for humidifying, cheaper living and longer hours of employment, certain countries created formidable competition, particularly in India and China.

REORGANISATION.

No doubt much could be achieved by re-organisation of the trade generally. The Lancashire Cotton Corporation, which hoped soon to control some 10,000,000 spindles, had been constituted with the help of the Bank of England and the co-operation of the other banks, and was engaged in effecting all possible economies.

The fine spinning trade which hitherto had been normally profitable had followed to some extent in the wake of the American section. A relatively small combine, the Combined Egyptian Mills, Ltd., had been formed, and he understood had already effected substantial economies. In the weaving trade there had been no amalgamations of importance, but they were likely to follow. Individual manufacturers had been attempting to improve their output by arranging for workers to operate more looms per individual. If economies were to be accomplished and the cost of production reduced, it seemed obvious that bleachers, finishers, dyers, and other subsidiary trades would have to come to some arrangement with spinners and weavers.

The essentials of manufacturing production were management, machinery, and labour. Inefficient management must be changed as speedily as possible. Machinery when worn or obsolete should be replaced out of revenue, for which purpose much more generous allowances ought to be made by the tax authorities. Equally, if labour was inefficient, in the sense of not giving the highest possible return, it must be improved. If the trade unions could be brought to see the wisdom of modifying the restrictions they imposed on production, the result would be immeasurably beneficial to the whole trade of the country and to the workers themselves.

BURDEN OF TAXATION.

So far as Lancashire was concerned, the cheapening of costs in this way should go far towards re-capturing some of her lost markets. "But there is still another serious handicap under which manufacturers are labouring" he proceeded. "I refer to the burden of Imperial and local taxation, which is heavier in this country than in any other, and is, I fear, in danger of being increased still further.

"Social services are wholly admirable in themselves, but we are spending more than we can afford, and it is time that expenditure, both national and municipal, was checked. Private persons who overspend are soon overtaken by retribution, and Governments and municipalities are not immune, though the consequences are more remote in their cases and less easily discerned for a time. I feel despondent when I contemplate the enormous outlays of the present day and the apparent absence of any disposition to count the cost."

IMPROVED COAL TRADE.

The year had been one of difficulty for the coal industry, which after literally fighting for its very existence in the export markets of the world, began gradually to regain a footing overseas. An increasing demand for coal and coke and the assistance afforded by the railway rate rebate scheme improved matters, and the industry now showed prospect of again becoming self-supporting and profit-earning. It was unfortunate that political interference should again be deemed necessary, and he hoped the Coal Mines Bill would be thoroughly overhauled in Committee.

There had been a welcome revival in the iron and steel trades, which, however, viewed with concern the prospects of increased prices of fuel if the scheme before Parliament became law.

SHIPS A

COMPANY MEETINGS.

LLOYDS BANK LIMITED.

LARGER NET PROFITS.

PROVISION FOR HATRY LOSSES.

THE RELATIONS OF BANKERS TO INDUSTRY.

MR. J. BEAUMONT PEASE ON THE PRESENT POSITION.

The seventy-second ordinary general meeting of the shareholders was held on Friday at the Cannon Street Hotel, London.

Mr. J. Beaumont Pease (Chairman of the Bank) presided.

The auditors' report having been read by Sir Gilbert Garnsey, K.B.E.,

The Chairman moved the adoption of the directors' report, and in the course of his remarks said:—

The balance sheet and profit and loss account having been circulated with the annual report to all shareholders, I assume it is your wish that we should take them as read. You will have noticed that the alterations in our balance-sheet necessitated by the new Companies Act are quite trifling. We have always given full particulars of our shareholdings in our two subsidiary banks, the National Bank of Scotland, Limited, and the Bank of London and South America, Limited. We now have to show our balances in account with our subsidiaries we have to state how their profits have been disposed of; and the fees received by our directors have also to be quoted.

Taking the liabilities side of our balance-sheet first of all, our capital and reserve remain unaltered.

We have at the present time about sixty-five thousand shareholders on our books, and it may interest you to know that for some years past we have had an independent audit of our share registers made by our auditors, who, after examining all transfers and old certificates lodged with the Bank, give us week by week a certificate to the effect that all new share certificates laid before the Board for sealing are correct.

The two great factors in the earning power of our bank are its total resources of capital, reserve, and deposits, and the prevailing value of money. With the latter I shall have to deal when I come to discuss the profit and loss account. As regards the former, it is satisfactory to be able to report that throughout the year our current, deposit, and other accounts, as you will have seen from our monthly published figures, have been consistently at a higher level than in 1928. The average for the year is four million pounds higher than for the preceding twelve months, but payments on behalf of our customers for the 5 per Cent. Conversion Loan cause our balance-sheet figure of £351,644,000 to be half a million less than a year ago.

LIQUID ASSETS.

On the assets side, our cash in hand and with the Bank of England, together with the balances with and cheques in course of collection on other banks in the British Isles (the latter, of course, becoming cash in a day or two), stand at £57,000,000, which is 16.1 per cent. of our total deposits.

Our money at call and short notice, £26,500,000, of which about one-fifth is lent upon fortnightly loans to the Stock Exchange, is 7.5 per cent. of our deposits.

Taking these three items together we have £83,500,000, equal to 23.6 per cent. of our deposits in a most liquid form.

Our balances at call and short notice with banks abroad, which a year ago stood at a little over £2,000,000, are at the moment £2,500,000 higher.

Our next most liquid asset is our bills. We have continued our policy of taking all approved bills offered to us for discount by our own customers, and filled up our portfolio with Treasury Bills. Thus we had on December 31 Treasury Bills amounting to £27,000,000 and commercial bills £12,000,000, of which £4,000,000 were colonial and foreign bills.

Our investments are all valued at market price or under, and out of a total of £37,000,000, £17,000,000 is in Treasury bonds and other short-term British securities, and £16,500,000 in other British Government securities.

ADVANCES.

Our Loans and Advances stand at £191,750,000, which is £4,500,000 more than a year ago. Throughout the year we have experienced a keen demand for accommodation, and on two occasions during the year the total advances for the ten London Clearing Banks have for the first time exceeded £1,000,000,000. Unfortunately, as was recently pointed out in the *Times*, this is no indication of the tendency of trade, but it is largely the result of the continued depression in some industries, which has prevented them from reducing their loans, and the comments made in the same paper as to the sympathetic treatment by the Banks are amply borne out by our own knowledge and experience.

Agriculture retains its place at the head of the list as regards the amount lent, though a slight decrease is noticeable spread over a large number of branches. This is probably attributable to advances which our customers have received from the Agricultural Mortgage Corporation.

Foodstuffs and tobacco, building trades, theatres and hotels are groups in which continued activity is indicated. An increase in advances on imported corn is due to heavy shipments of wheat. Local authorities are borrowing less. Cotton advances reflect the general depression in the cotton industry. Shipping is also down, although we are happy to know that many of our shipyards are now more fully engaged than they have been for some time past.

Advances to stockbrokers are £200,000 up. Having regard to the prominence which has been given to the immense amount of Bank credit used in America for stock exchange speculation, the very moderate amount of our advances to stockbrokers is a proof of the safe principles on which banking in connection with stock exchange business in this country is conducted.

PROFIT AND LOSS.

Let us now turn to our profit and loss account. It has been necessary to provide a larger amount than usual for bad and doubtful debts. A disquieting feature of the year has been noticeable throughout the greater part of the world. In Germany, Italy, France, America, and in other countries, a number of failures have taken place among banking and financial houses, as also in commercial concerns, due not so much to ordinary business difficulties, but to irregularities committed by individuals at the head of the respective businesses, whether in collusion with others or not, but without the knowledge of the general body of their colleagues. We in this country have not been immune from this phenomenon, though I am happy to think that, generally speaking, the high integrity of British character in business dealings is recognised as being pre-eminent in the world.

You will expect me to refer at some length to what has been termed the Hatry case, and I should wish to do so, in view of the grotesque reports as to the extent and the manner in which we are supposed to have been involved.

Fantastical figures of imaginary losses incurred by us have been freely bandied around, extending from £1,000,000 to some very much larger figures. Let me relieve your anxiety at once and at the same time put an end, I hope, to these wild stories. We have not a single penny invested in any company connected with the Hatry group, nor in any of their Corporation securities, but we acted as bankers to some of the companies, and, in common with other banks, we made advances to them almost entirely against what we believed to be Trustee securities, or good Stock Exchange securities outside the group, or against guarantees. These advances were made either to help municipal finance or in the belief that we were assisting the rationalisation of industry, and in no case for the furtherance of Stock Exchange operations. Any securities of the group in our possession were lodged by way of margin only, and we should suffer little loss but for the fact that many of the municipal and other securities are now challenged as having been fraudulently issued or dealt with. Some very important and difficult questions of law as between innocent parties have arisen in consequence, which will have to be settled by the Courts, and until that has been done it is impossible to say exactly what our loss may be. We have, however, taken the prudent course of providing in the usual way out of the profits of the past year a sum of £500,000. We are quite satisfied that in no case is there any reasonable possibility of that amount being exceeded. On the contrary, we believe that it will be substantially reduced.

Banking conditions throughout the year have been very difficult, and at the same time very interesting. Considered solely with a view to gross profits, 1929 has been a good banking year. It may not be out of place, however, to point out that a high Bank rate does not necessarily mean increased profits to bankers. In Scotland, for instance, where rates are agreed between the banks, the margin of profit between the lending rates and the borrowing rates was 8s. 3d. per cent. less in 1929 than in the preceding year. I am glad to be able to say that in spite of the larger provisions to which I have referred, we are in the happy position of being able to bring in a net profit of £2,542,083, which is £13,941 more than a year ago. The usual interim dividends were paid for the half-year ended June 30 last; we have placed £250,000 to the Bank Premises Account, and £300,000 to Staff Superannuation Fund, these allocations being the same as last year; and, if you agree to the final dividends which we recommend, we shall have a balance of £508,234 to carry forward in our profit and loss account, an increase of £18,198.

GOLD MOVEMENTS.

Perhaps the most interesting, but in some ways a disturbing, feature of the past year has been the movement of gold, and a recent return shows us how exceptional and large this has been. We saw in the early part of the year large shipments to the United States of America, which were used to finance the stock markets there, where very high rates of interest were obtainable, and which necessitated the first rise in our Bank rate to 5½ per cent. on February 7. For a short time this rise checked the outflow, but it commenced again towards the beginning of June, not only in the same direction, but also in the direction of Germany, and during that month £4,000,000 in gold was taken by the United States of America and £2,500,000 by Germany. This in itself was serious, but in July commenced what proved to be the largest and most persistent demand that we have had to meet, namely, from France. This continued intermittently until the end of the year, and very nearly £35,000,000 is the total amount of our gold shipments in that direction. The rise in our Bank rate to 6½ per cent. on September 26 seemed to exercise the desired check on the German and American exchanges but did not affect the French demand, which seems to arise from causes other than those of pure exchange or the value of money. It was only at the end of October, when the inflated stock markets in America began to show signs of crumbling, that the relief came, enabling the Bank of England to reduce its rate to 6 per cent. on October 31, to 5½ per cent on November 21, and again to 5 per cent. on December 12. Since then a moderate flow of gold to this country has occurred, and what is equally important is that the Continental demand has been largely satisfied from sources outside London, and the net efflux for the year had been reduced at the end of December to some £8,000,000. Once again the effectiveness of the Bank of England rate as a regulator of the international money situation has been clearly demonstrated.

BANKERS AND INDUSTRY.

We hear to-day a great deal about rationalisation, and in some quarters there seems to be a certain amount of blame levelled at the banks that they are not using their influence and power to enforce amalgamations and reconstructions, and generally to assume functions which at present they only exercise to a limited extent. No doubt there is a great deal to be done by some industries in this direction, and, if I may say so, a great deal of spade work is at present in progress. We can ask ourselves how far can the banks assist; how far do their functions extend; and what is the form of influence they can use fully exert where any steps should appear to them to be desirable? How far can they legitimately press their customers in this direction; is their judgment likely to be better than that of those who have been brought up in the businesses concerned; and would not the ultimate responsibility for lack of success of any such schemes suggested by the banks react upon them?

My own answer to these somewhat difficult questions is definitely that it is not the function of individual banks, or even of banks as a whole, if that were a practical possibility, to initiate the reorganisation of industry or to try to dictate the steps which should be taken in this direction. In the case of a particular company a banker may have very definite knowledge that all is not well with its affairs, and there have been many cases in recent years where distinguished bankers have served on reorganisation committees and have assisted in evolving schemes for the improvement of the business in question, and banks have followed this up by financial help in the reconstitution. But I do not think bankers have the necessary detailed knowledge of the condition of an industry as a whole, or are sufficiently acquainted with its technicalities, to be in a position to say what particular reforms are advisable; what flaws there may be in its technical procedure; or what units are redundant. These points should be left to the industry itself or to technical experts, called in for the purpose, to determine. No doubt banks have an important and useful rôle to play in providing the necessary temporary finance for the reconstituted industry, if they are satisfied that the position has been sufficiently investigated and that the reforms instituted have reasonable hopes of success. I have no doubt at all that banks will be willing in such an event to do their part.

A company such as that recently formed under the auspices of the Bank of England should prove a most useful intermediary in this way between industry and the banks. As to the nature of the financial help which a bank should give, there is no clear-cut division between liquid capital, such as seasonal advances, which all are agreed it is within the function of banks to supply, and fixed capital, which in the ordinary course is subscribed by the investing public. There is an intermediate class of capital for which it is not always easy to state the proper source. I do not think, however, that anyone who realises the nature of English banking and the fiduciary position of bankers to the public for the repayment of money left in their hands, would lightly advocate the investment of bank deposits in anything which was of doubtful liquidity.

POST OFFICE ROBBERIES.

A disquieting feature of recent times has been the numerous robberies of currency whilst in charge of the Post Office, and these seem to be becoming more frequent as time goes on. The Post Office assumes no responsibility in this respect, and banks and the public generally have suffered heavy losses from this cause. Some communications have taken place over a number of years between bankers and the Post Office authorities on this subject, and no doubt serious consideration has been given to the best methods of removing this blot on the administration of a public service, but nothing so far seems to have materialised, and the risk of entrusting money to the care of the Post Office is as great as ever. At the least it surely ought not to be beyond the powers of the authorities to institute a system of insurance which, for a much smaller premium than that charged by an outside institution which has no control over the transport of the money, would at any rate protect the public from the risk of total loss.

GENERAL TENDENCIES.

In regard to trade and prospects generally, I am not going to indulge in the easy but dangerous luxury of prophesying. I do not, however, see any reason for being pessimistic. The desire of us all is to see our industries more active and our people more fully employed. As leaders of all parties have expressed their belief that the question of unemployment ought not to be regarded as a political or party one, perhaps it may be permissible for me to point out the sharp contrast which seems to exist between our methods and those of other countries in this very difficult and complex question. In America, whither we are so often bidden to turn for guidance in these matters, we find a strict adherence to the principle that prosperity is closely allied to a high level of purchasing power. In conformity with this belief, leaders of major industries in the United States, when confronted with a probable fall in the general capacity for consumption in consequence of the recent Stock Exchange crisis, have agreed together to avoid any fall in the level of wages; indeed, in some cases there has been an actual increase, while the Government, with the same object in view, has announced a large remission of income-tax. A similar reduction of taxation has taken place in Germany. In this country, on the other hand, we are faced not only with large additional expenditure on the part of the Government involving us in a probable greater burden of taxation, but also with a higher cost of coal, the raw material of all industries. It is not for me to say whether these things can be avoided, but undoubtedly they will delay the recovery of trade and the improvement in the number of unemployed.

I now beg to move: "That the report just taken as read be received and adopted, and that, in accordance with the recommendation of the directors therein, a dividend be declared for the half-year ended the 31st December last on the paid-up capital of the Company at the rate of 16 2-3 per cent. per annum on the 'A' shares, and at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum on the 'B' shares, payable, less income-tax, on and after the 1st February, 1930."

The resolution was seconded by Sir Austin E. Harris, K.B.E., the Deputy-Chairman, and carried unanimously.

The retiring directors were re-elected, and Messrs. Price, Waterhouse and Co., were re-appointed auditors for the year 1930.

Votes of thanks to the directors for their services during the past year, to the general managers and staff for their excellent work, and to the Chairman for presiding, were carried unanimously, and the proceedings then terminated.

LLOYDS BANK

LIMITED

Chairman: J. W. BEAUMONT PEASE
Deputy-Chairman: Sir AUSTIN E. HARRIS, K.B.E.

BALANCE SHEET, 31st DECEMBER 1929

LIABILITIES	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Capital:— Authorised: £74,000,000 in 14,500,000 "A" Shares of £5 each; 1,500,000 "B" Shares of £1 each. Issued: £73,302,076 in 14,372,956 "A" Shares of £5 each, £1 per share paid up ... ... 14,372,956 0 0 1,437,296 "B" Shares of £1 each, fully paid ... 1,437,296 0 0		15,810,252 0 0
Reserve Fund		10,000,000 0 0
Profit and Loss Balance ...		1,495,177 11 1
		27,305,429 11 1
Current, Deposit and other Accounts, including provision for Contingencies 351,644,188 4 8 *(Public and other Accounts secured as per contra are also included)*		
Balances in account with Subsidiary Companies 796 6 8		351,644,964 11 4
Notes in Circulation (Isle of Man) *secured as per contra*		5,839 0 0
Acceptances		3,603,470 5 6
Endorsements, Guarantees, and other Obligations		43,622,815 9 4
		£431,182,518 17 3

ASSETS	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Cash in hand and with the Bank of England 44,203,998 11 2		
Balances with, and cheques in course of collection on, other Banks in the British Isles 12,798,849 5 11		
		57,002,847 17 1
Money at call and Short Notice		26,484,814 12 6
Balances with Banks Abroad		4,665,647 7 9
Treasury Bills		27,180,000 0 0
British Bills of Exchange		8,179,603 13 10
Colonial and Foreign Bills		4,265,672 14 0
Investments at or under Market Value:— Treasury Bonds and other short-term British Government Securities ... 17,135,695 9 10		
Other British Government Securities *(of which £528,122 : 15 : 0, nominal, is lodged for Public and other Accounts and for the Note Issue in the Isle of Man)* ... 16,581,904 15 3		
		33,717,600 5 1
Indian and Colonial Government Securities, and British Corporation Stocks		1,179,095 8 11
Other Investments *(Note.—There is a contingent liability for uncalled Capital in respect of a portion of these Investments)*		2,237,481 5 5
		164,912,713 4 7
Shares in Subsidiary Companies:— The National Bank of Scotland Limited, *£4,877,270 (nominal) Stock (£1,072,999:8:0 paid up). Taken at Capital paid up, plus proportion of Reserve Fund and undivided Profits* 2,656,908 0 0		
Bank of London & South America Ltd., *402,670 shares of £5 each, fully paid, at £8 : 10 : 0 per share* 3,422,695 0 0		
Indian Premises Company Limited, 7,000 shares of Rs. 100 each, fully paid, at cost 54,501 14 5		
Nominee and other Companies (written down to nil ... ... —		
		6,134,104 14 5
Lloyds & National Provincial Foreign Bank Limited, *12,000 shares of £50 each, fully paid, at £50 per share*		600,000 0 0
Loans and Advances 191,010,596 6 8		
Balances in account with Subsidiary Companies 741,856 4 6		
		191,752,252 11 2
Items in transit		3,910,386 4 6
Other Assets and Accounts *(including sundry Properties at cost, less amounts written off)*		4,689,053 18 9
Bank Premises, *at cost, less amounts written off*		6,957,722 9 0
Liabilities of Customers for Acceptances, *as per contra*		3,603,470 5 6
Liabilities of Customers for Endorsements, Guarantees, and other Obligations, *as per contra*		43,622,815 9 4
		£431,182,518 17 3

J. W. BEAUMONT PEASE, Chairman
AUSTIN E. HARRIS, Deputy Chairman

REPORT OF THE AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF LLOYDS BANK LIMITED

We report that we have examined the above Balance Sheet, dated the 31st December, 1929, with the books of the Bank at the Head Office, and with the certified returns from the Branches—the Indian accounts being brought in as at the 31st October, 1929. We have satisfied ourselves as to the Cash in Hand and with the Bank of England, the Balances with, and Cheques in course of collection on, other Banks in the British Isles, the Balances with Banks abroad, and the Bills. We have also verified the correctness of the Money at Call and Short Notice and the Securities representing the Investments of the Bank. We have obtained all the information and explanations we have required and are of opinion that such Balance Sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the Bank's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given to us, and as shown by the books and returns of the Bank.

PRICE, WATERHOUSE & CO.,
Chartered Accountants

3 FREDERICK'S PLACE, E.C. 2
17th January 1930

Chief General Managers:
F. A. BEANE, G. F. ABELL

Joint General Managers:
A. DAVIDSON, W. G. JOHNS, D.S.O., R. A. WILSON, S. PARKES, S. P. CHERRINGTON

NATIONAL FREEHOLD LAND & BUILDING SOCIETY

The 80th annual meeting of the members of the National Freehold Land and Building Society was held on Friday last at the Cannon Street Hotel, E.C.

Mr. George Elkington, J.P., F.K.I.B.A. (the chairman), said that the directors were able to present a really splendid report. Their progress had been extraordinary during the past year in every department. They had as far surpassed the previous year as that in its turn had transcended all the years that had gone before. Latest reports showed that there was something like 269 millions of money invested in the building societies of England and Wales early last year, and at the present time there must be considerably over 300 millions. There were very nearly 2,000,000 shareholders, excluding depositors, and during the last recorded year the advances made by these societies amounted to 60 millions.

There were about 1,000 societies, of which about fifty could be called fairly large, and the National was well up in the first twelve. Their subscriptions during the year were £3,163,997, and withdrawals were £1,199,675. The members' capital at the end of the year stood at £7,890,461, an increase of £1,980,812. Their total assets at the end of the year under review were £9,952,604, and since then they had increased to about £10,500,000.

Advances during the year amounted to £3,886,284, an increase of nearly £1,750,000. Those advances were spread over a very large number of cases, practically all being owner-occupiers. The amount on mortgage at the end of the year was £9,351,852, an increase during the year of over £3,000,000.

After they had paid the members their usual 5 per cent., and had also paid everything which they owed, they had a surplus of £70,225, which, added to the reserve fund, brought the fund up to £363,577.

The report and accounts were adopted, and it was resolved to change the name of the Society to "The National Building Society," and to make certain alterations in the rules.

COMPANY MEETINGS.

NATIONAL PROVINCIAL BANK.

OUTSTANDING EVENTS REVIEWED—SATISFACTORY RESULTS

FUNCTION OF THE BANKS DEFINED.

The annual general meeting of the National Provincial Bank, Ltd., was held on January 30 in the Great Hall, Cannon Street Hotel, London, E.C., Sir Harry Goschen, Bt., K.B.E. (the chairman), presiding.

Sir Alfred Lewis (chief general manager) read the notice convening the meeting and the report of the auditors.

The Chairman, who was received with applause, said: As announced in the report, your directors have appointed two new directors to seats on the board, whose names will be later on duly submitted to you for re-election. It has given the board much pleasure to express in this way some public proof of the appreciation they entertain for the valuable services Sir Alfred Lewis has rendered the bank as joint general manager and chief general manager for many years. (Hear, hear.) We were fortunate in securing, as a result of the acquisition of the Bradford District Bank, Sir Alfred's services for this institution. Since that time he has laboured without ceasing to combine the best features and traditions of the National Provincial Bank and the Bradford District Bank into one homogeneous whole and to maintain the sound position the bank enjoys. His efforts have been crowned with success, and we cordially welcome him as a member of our board. (Hear, hear.)

In electing Captain Evan Cadogan Eric Smith to a seat on the board, we are glad thus officially to retain our connection with one of the oldest and most respected firms of bankers in the country. His father, Mr. Lindsay Eric Smith, was an honoured member of our board for many years, and I am confident that his son, who has already made his name in other spheres of business, will prove a useful and valuable colleague. (Hear, hear.)

OPENING OF NEW BRANCHES.

Our reports show that the policy of opening new branches wherever favourable opportunities occur continues in force, and I am pleased to say that our endeavours to encourage thrift and provide facilities for saving among even the youngest of all classes of the community are meeting with the success I venture to think they deserve.

The provision of means for depositing cash at our offices after banking hours, by the installation of night safes, appears to be meeting the convenience of our customers in increasing measure, and will be developed as the demand for such facilities becomes apparent.

I think, too, I should not omit to say that we are proceeding with the installation of mechanical aids to our accounting and clerical system, steadily but cautiously, as is found desirable, and with due regard to the experience obtained of the constant improvement in the machines placed at our disposal. The initial outlay is, of course, heavy, but the ultimate economies will, we believe, amply justify the expenditure involved.

BALANCE-SHEET FIGURES.

In accordance with the new Companies Act, the balance-sheet, which is accompanied by a profit and loss account, is submitted to you in a revised form, but the changes involved are only slight and do not prevent a comparison with previous years.

Our capital and reserves, which show no change, appear in the same manner as before, and with the balance of profit and loss account, show the total of the bank's paid-up capital and reserves at £19,808,086 18s. 5d. This is followed by the item representing our deposits and other accounts which, at £271,540,937 3s. 9d., shows a decrease, in common with most other banks, from the abnormally high figure at which they stood in last year's balance-sheet.

The next line, balances due to subsidiary companies, is an innovation and represents balances in our hands belonging to our two subsidiary companies, Messrs. Coutts and Messrs. Grindlay.

Liabilities for acceptances, etc., appears on both sides of the account as usual.

THE ASSETS.

The manner in which our first four items on the assets side of the account are set out is unchanged—these show a reduction, in sympathy with the decreased figures of our deposits and the increased total of our advances, which is, perhaps, particularly noticeable in the amount of Treasury bills as compared with the same date in 1928. This item forms what I may term the compensating balance of our accounts, for if our deposits increase it is in this form mainly that the money finds a temporary home, and if the demand for advances increases or deposits are withdrawn, it is this hen-roost that is primarily robbed to find the necessary funds.

Our investments show, in the aggregate, a small reduction as compared with the figures of last year. Our holding in other banks is set out somewhat differently than in previous balance-sheets, but you will notice that the only alterations in the figures are that our investment in Lloyds and National Provincial Foreign Bank, which stood at £420,000, has now been increased to £600,000, owing to the shares having been fully paid up, and that we have increased our holding in the Yorkshire Penny Bank by £31,250. Our investments in subsidiary companies are set out separately in accordance with the terms of the Act, but otherwise show no change.

INCREASE IN ADVANCES.

Our advances stand at £156,000,000, an increase of six million as compared with 1928, which clearly demonstrates, especially in view of the decrease in our deposits, that the bank has again during the past year made every effort to meet the requirements of its customers, thus enabling them, in many cases, to keep their works running and avoid further unemployment. (Hear, hear.)

There is nothing owing to us by subsidiary companies.

On the next page we set forth a separate profit and loss account in the form required by the Act, from which you will see that the profit brought into the account, after making provision for rebate and bad and doubtful debts, amounts to £2,224,786 8s. 11d.

I might here refer to the Hatry collapse. The repercussions of such a collapse could not but affect directly or indirectly, at some point or other, a business of the magnitude of and as widespread as ours. We have, however, made adequate provision for possible losses out of the year's revenue. (Hear, hear.)

To return now to our own profit figures. From the sum of £2,224,786 8s. 11d., to which I have already referred, has to be deducted £35,082 1s. 4d., the amount of the directors' remuneration, paid by this bank. The total amount of £46,411 10s. 4d., as set out in the account, includes over £11,000 which, although paid by our two subsidiary companies to their directors who are on our Board, has, under the Companies Act, to be shown in our statement.

ALLOCATION OF PROFIT.

The balance of net profit brought down from this section of profit and loss to what I may term the appropriation account amounts to £2,189,704 7s. 7d. and compares with the figure of £2,108,663 16s. 11d. in last year's balance-sheet. With the balance of £865,845 8s. 6d. brought forward from last year, we arrive at a total of £3,055,549 16s. 1d., available for the dividends and various allocations which have been set out on the other side of the account.

The dividend paid in July last of £853,147 8s. 10d. has first to be charged, and the balance is appropriated to the following accounts: To the pension fund, £100,000; to bank premises, £200,000, against £100,000 last year, and to the contingency account £200,000; so that, after the deduction of a final dividend at the rate of 18 per cent. per annum for the half-year, amounting again to £853,147 8s. 10d., the sum of £849,25 18s. 5d. remains to be carried forward to next year, as shown in the balance-sheet. I need not emphasise the fact that such a satisfactory result of our operations as is before you, produced during a period of most extraordinary difficulty, could only be achieved by watchful control of our resources and careful management of our business. It has been a year of unremitting labour for the chief general manager and the general managers, and I am sure you will support me in paying tribute to them and also to our managers and staff throughout the country, who, by the loyalty and the efficiency of their united efforts, have contributed to the gratifying results which are before you. (Hear, hear.)

CONDITIONS IN 1929.

In addressing you last year I ventured to say that one could hardly forecast the probable course of business from one week to another, and I am sorry to say that the past year appears to me to have provided ample justification for that statement.

Unfortunate occurrences in the business world, both at home and abroad, have played their part too in keeping the nerves of the commercial community in a high state of strain and in restricting the enterprise and expansion of trade which might otherwise have taken place.

On the Continent of Europe business has not been good, and reports of failures and difficulties have unfortunately been rife in many directions. It is a matter for regret that in many cases serious irregularities and undoubted evidence of fraudulent practice have been brought to light, and one cannot help wondering whether the inordinate desire to make money quickly, at all costs, which, unfortunately, has been only too prevalent, has not had some influence in lowering the high moral standard of business integrity both at home and abroad on which we have so far been accustomed to rely. I trust that what appears to be a lapse from the high traditions of financial and commercial morality may prove to be only a temporary aberration, and that last year's experience will have shown the world at large that the maintenance of a high standard of honour and probity is the primary and the most essential basis of all domestic and international business transactions. (Hear, hear.) This basis of credit, once destroyed, would be hard to restore, and the community must realise that, despite the allurements of possible profits on a large scale, it is an honourable obligation on their part to see that their engagements bear a reasonable proportion to the means at their disposal. (Hear, hear.)

FEVERISH CONDITION OF STOCK MARKETS.

The feverish condition of the stock markets both at home and in the United States has been a constant menace throughout the year, and the orgy of speculation in America and the soaring prices of Industrial securities in that market attracted many people to what appeared to be an easy way of making money. The disastrous slump which took place towards the end of the year not only dispelled this illusion, but probably caused unpleasant losses in many directions. At the same time a somewhat similar situation was developing in this country, fortunately on a smaller scale, but still carrying in its train material losses to those concerned.

I have endeavoured to give you in a somewhat sketchy form a short account of some of the more outstanding events which have characterised the past year, but the whole period has been one of constant anxiety and has called for the exercise of the greatest possible vigilance and care on the part of your executive officers.

It may almost surprise you, after all I have said, that I am able to record improvement in the position and results of any of our important industries. The fact, however, that during the past twelve months there have been no prolonged or important trade disputes involving protracted stoppages of work has been of material value, and the better understanding between employers and employed, which appears to be slowly but surely permeating the country, has been an important factor in the improved results which have been achieved in some directions.

TRADE CONDITIONS: IRON AND STEEL PROGRESS.

The production of both iron and steel shows a considerable development as compared with the figures of 1928, and a still more pleasing feature is that our exports of these metals represent an appreciable increase both in the raw and manufactured grades as well as in the more highly finished states, such as hardware, cutlery, and machinery. The year's output of British steel of 9,600,000 tons is almost a record in the history of the industry, but even with this production the available steel plant in the country it not approaching its full capacity. It would be idle to pretend that our iron and steel trades are in a prosperous condition, but progress has been made. The reorganisation and amalgamations which have taken place and are still in process of completion have effected many economies. Much dead wood has been cut out, and I do not think I should be expressing too optimistic an opinion if I say that there are several undertakings which are once again covering their expenses, and that there are some which are actually working at a profit.

There can be, I think, no doubt that we have in this country, and, indeed, in the most suitable localities, an abundance of the material elements necessary to produce iron and steel on competitive terms with any country in the world. We have labour, both skilled and unskilled, unequalled by any other people, but while perhaps our machinery for subsidiary purposes cannot be surpassed the information at my disposal leads me to think that improvements can be effected in the primary processes for economical production of the basic material. How these improvements can be effected is a question for our experts. While financial considerations may here and there present difficulties, I am sure that no efforts will be wanting on the part of British banks to afford the necessary assistance to sound proposals, and I am confident that it is only by the provision of the most economic and efficient plant that this industry can successfully exploit to the fullest advantage the natural means at its disposal and compete effectively in the markets of the world.

SHIPBUILDING AND COAL IMPROVEMENTS.

I am glad to say that our shipyards show an improvement in the volume of work, at all events, on which they are engaged, both the tonnage launched and that under construction showing an increase over last year's figure, and we seem to be holding our own in this direction with the rest of the world. Reports from some districts indicate that the orders in hand justify a certain measure of optimism as to sufficiency of work for some months, and we only hope that the prices at which contracts have been secured may afford satisfactory profits and thus contribute to the resources of our shipbuilders for such further developments as they may find it expedient to make. In this connection we cannot but be impressed with the intense efforts which our Continental rivals are making in the building of larger and more speedy ships for capturing a greater share of the trade of the world.

Conditions in the coal industry, judged by the increased tonnage produced and larger exports, appear to be improving, and it is especially gratifying to note that a larger number of men are now employed in and about the mines. It is, however, doubtful whether net profits show any commensurate return, although some collieries appear at last to be more than covering production expenses, and some even to be working at a small profit. The tendency towards combined working and collective selling organisation is a satisfactory feature, and in one instance, at all events, appears to be showing successful results. Owners and workers seem to be coming closer together in the realisation of the fact that their interests are identical and not antagonistic. It seems almost a pity that this improving situation may again be disturbed by new legislation, and we can only hope that whatever provisions are enacted they may be carried through with the approval of both owners and workers, and so foster this growing spirit of co-operation which so vitally affects this most important industry.

THE TEXTILE SITUATION.

I am sorry to say that the textile industry again presents a depressing picture. I suppose that 1929 has been one of the worst years that the cotton trade, as a whole, has experienced for a long time. The home trade has been the one bright spot. Some money may have been made by manufacturers engaged on the finest counts and on specialities, but our former great export trade continues to show a most deplorable shrinkage. In many countries production exceeds demand, and this, in addition to the handicap of higher costs of production here, intensifies the foreign competition with our manufacturers. In spite of all the assistance and advice which have been freely afforded to interested parties, schemes of reorganisation are only making slow progress among those concerned. From reports that reach me I fear that we are suffering materially from the increased efficiency of machinery installed in foreign undertakings during recent years, and I am assured that we cannot hope to compete successfully in the markets of the world unless lower costs are brought into operation and the latest and most improved means of production are adopted.

Conditions in the wool section of the trade are not much better. Manufacturers of fine worsted goods and spinners of fine yarns may have had a good year, but in practically all other branches losses rather than profits predominate. Top makers and merchants, in view of the continued fall in wool, have had a bad year. The present price of wool, which is now practically down to pre-war level, would seem to afford more hope for the future, especially as present values would appear to offer little inducement to flock owners to increase their production. Larger Continental production at lower costs continues to handicap this section of our trade, and our exports of tops and yarns show a lamentable decrease in comparison with pre-war days.

The artificial silk industry which had made such progress has, in the last few months, shown signs of depression, and here again over-production, with a corresponding fall in prices, has enhanced the difficulty of carrying on business on a profitable basis.

STATE OF AGRICULTURE.

Little improvement, if any, is to be recorded in agriculture, in spite of the fact that the conditions as a whole have been favourable. The drought in the early part of the year resulted in a light hay crop in many districts, with correspondingly low prices for stock, owing to the fear of a scarcity of keep for the winter months. Cereal crops, on the other hand, at all events on the heavier lands, were good, and assisted by the fine weather were harvested in good order and are showing satisfactory yields. The low prices obtainable for all classes of grain can hardly, unless under exceptional circumstances, have enabled farmers to produce at a profit, and this state of affairs is only too clearly reflected in the recent statement that there were a quarter of a million acres less under the plough in 1929 than in the previous year.

Sugar beet has again come to the rescue in many directions, and the yield both in tonnage and sugar content in some districts has proved to be a record one, but the depression which on the whole prevails in the sphere of agriculture continues to be a source of anxiety; drastic and immediate measures are necessary if still further land is not to go out of arable cultivation.

OUTLOOK: NEED OF THE BASIC INDUSTRIES.

It is indeed difficult to form an opinion as to the prospects for the year which we have now entered. We are faced with problems in many directions which demand the greatest care and circumspection for their solution.

Our great basic industries—cotton, iron and steel—are all clamouring for further supplies of capital to instal new machinery to bring processes up to date and to effect such improvements and reorganisation as they confidently hope will enable them to compete successfully in the markets of the world, and where is this capital to come from? No one, I take it, would suggest that the banks should permanently find the money required for capital expenditure and lock up their resources in machinery and bricks and mortar. It never has been the policy of the English joint stock banks to immobilise their funds in such investments, and I trust it never will be. (Hear, hear.) Their function is to provide money for their customers' current needs, and it is owing to the fact that this has been their guiding light, and to the wise provision for eventualities which they have made from their profits in happier days, that they have been able, even in times of crisis, to assist their clients and at the same time maintain their sound position.

Capital for permanent investment must be found from the savings of the people, and one is at once faced with the problem—Is there a sufficient sum available from this source to meet the demand? It has been true, of course, that savings have shown an accumulation each year, but with the high cost of living, heavy taxation, reduced profits and higher expenses in all directions, are the country's savings at the present time adequate for the purpose?

SOCIAL SERVICES AND THE NATIONAL REVENUE.

We have been warned that the still further improved social services, unemployment benefits, etc., will again necessitate still higher taxation, and also that various duties which now produce revenue will be abandoned. In such an event their contribution to the national revenue must be replaced. No one would wish to see the standard of these services reduced, although now generally on a higher level—in spite of our greater financial sacrifices—than in other countries, but if we are wise we shall cut our coat according to our cloth. Can we have confidence that under the new conditions for which we have had warnings to be prepared the savings of the people of this country will provide the still larger sums required for industry? I will not attempt to answer the question, but it is not surprising that many thoughtful people have misgivings on the subject.

PROBLEM OF UNEMPLOYMENT.

Have we considered whether even under favourable circumstances our industries can again provide enough work for our ever-growing population to keep the country free from the nightmare of unemployment, and are we offering sufficient inducements, as compared with the advantages of existence in this country, to the youth of the operative section of our people to venture their fortunes in lands beyond the seas, as many of our young men in other walks of life have done? The diversion to this object of some of the money spent in other directions might, I believe, have far-reaching effects.

These are some of the problems it seems to me we have to face at the present time. The situation is to my mind, too serious to be the play of any political factor. The old saying, "The day is always darkest before the dawn," is often a true one, and I believe the difficulties which confront us are not insurmountable; indeed, some seem to be already in course of solution.

It may not be inappropriate for me here to say that, disregarding all party politics as such, I am sure we all welcome the wholehearted efforts of the Lord Privy Seal in his anxiety to solve the problem of unemployment in this country—(hear, hear)—and speaking for this bank we welcome any scheme founded on sound economic principles which will contribute to the extension of our overseas trade, without which we cannot enjoy that measure of prosperity which our increasing population and the necessities of our time require. It would be fatal, however, if such public intervention were to tempt us for a moment to relax our individual efforts or to induce us to rely on the possibility of State assistance taking the place of personal endeavour. Our future depends in the long run, not on Government ordinances or on conferences and committees, but on the efforts, industry, and enterprise of a united people. (Applause.)

The report and accounts were unanimously adopted.

WALL STREET FIRM.

BUYING RESUMED.

MOTOR SHARES GAIN STRENGTH.

NEW YORK, Saturday.

Stocks opened irregular, but later developed strength under the leadership of communications issues. Early declines were cut down or cancelled as liquidation dried up and buying was resumed in a varied assortment of Industrials, Rails, and Utilities. With bears apparently unable to check the general advance, small investors and speculators were again drawn into the market as pools resumed operations.

While weekly trade reviews noted further improvement in general business, there were a number of disappointing factors, freight carloadings, bank clearings, and building activities, all making unfavourable comparisons with last year.

Heavy buying in General Motors and Chrysler Motors featured the final dealings.

New York and Harlem again jumped 40 points, while American Telegraph and Telephone rose 6, Western Union Telegraph 7, and Air Reduction Allegheny Corporation, Auburn Auto, Bendix Aviation, Chesapeake and Ohio, Columbia Carbon, Dupont, General Motors, International Telephone, Macey Co., Standard Gas, Union Carbide, and Industrial Alcohol gained 2 to 5 points, but Gillette Safety Razor, Public Service of New Jersey, American and Foreign Power, Radio Corporation, Union Pacific, Vanadium, and Westinghouse Electric eased. The market closed firm.

Government bonds steady. Railroad bonds quiet. The day's sales totalled 1,925,000 shares. Money on call nominal. Sterling exchange steady. Silver ¼c. up at 45⅞.—*Reuter.*

PRODUCE MARKETS.

NEW YORK, Saturday.

Wheat Spots.—Firm and 1⅜c. to 2c. higher. No. 2 Amber Durum, 124¼; No. 2 Northern Manitoba, 139; No. 2 Hard Winter, 125¼; No. 2 Red Winter, 134¾. Sales for export, 100 boatloads.

Petroleum.—Steady. Standard White, in cases, 17.65; in barrels, 14.25; Philadelphia, 14.25; Mid-Continent Crude, 33 to 33.9; Baume, 1.11; Pennsylvania Crude, 2.70 to 3.05.

Coffee opened steady and 13 to 6 points higher. Light offerings and firmer foreign market advices influenced short covering and some Brazilian buying, but liquidation later caused recessions. The market closed barely steady with Rio futures 2 points up to 5 down, and Santos options 3 points to a point lower. Spots steady at unchanged rates:—Rio No. 7, 10⅝; Santos No. 4, 15; Futures Basis Rio, No. 7. Closing Options:—March 8.68, May 8.22, July 7.98, September 7.83, December 7.67, January (1931) 7.65. Futures Basis Santos No. 4.—Closing Options: March 13.20, May 12.35, July 11.80, September 11.49, December 11.28.

Cocoa.—Spot 9½. Futures closed steady at 6 to 8 points advance:—March 9.57, May 9.95, July 10.21, September 10.46, December 10.18.

Sugar.—Trading ruled quiet. The absence of demand encouraged liquidation, and some trade selling, and at the close futures were 2 to 3 points lower and the tone easy. Spot finished steady and unchanged. 96 Test Centrifugal Cuban, 3.77. Closing Options.—March, 1.80; May, 1.90; July, 1.88; September, 2.06; October, 2.08; December, 2.12; January (1931), 2.13.—*Reuter.*

CHICAGO, Saturday.

Wheat opened firm and 1⅛c. to 2⅛c. higher. Reports from Liverpool of prospects for a decrease in the stocks afloat for the week, together with reports of export sales in Hard Winter Wheats afloat induced active covering. The market continued to advance owing to unfavourable advices regarding Winter Wheat in the central belt and on Messrs. Clement Curtis estimating the acreage sown to Winter Wheat in six counties so far as 6,535,000 acres below last year. The close was firm at gains of 1⅞c. to 1⅛c. No. 2 Hard Winter Spot, 118⅛. Closing Options.—March, 117⅞ to 117½; May, 122⅛ to 122¼; July, 124⅛ to 124⅜; September, 126⅛ to 126⅜.

WINNIPEG, Saturday.

Wheat commenced firm, and 1⅛c. to ⅞c. higher, and continued to improve in unison with the sharp advance at Liverpool, also on reports that Argentine shippers' offers are much higher, and rumours of a good export business by the Canadian Wheat pool. Buying by export houses, and an official estimate indicating that stocks of English Wheat in Great Britain are 800 thousand bushels below last year, further assisted the rise, and the market closed firm at 2c. to 1⅛c. improvement. Closing Options.—May, 129⅛; July, 131¼; October, 129⅜.—*Reuter.*

CURB ACTIVE.

UTILITIES AND TRUSTS FEATURED.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

NEW YORK, Saturday.

The Curb market displayed moderate strength in brisk trading. While utilities and investment issues attracted most of the buying, at advances ranging from fractions to 4 points, there was lively interest also shown in some oils and industrials, especially aviations.

Oils were largely irregular, but marked little change, while some utilities, including Cities Service, were heavily bought. The day's sales totalled 672,000 shares.

Electric Share and Bond rose 1⅛, Electric Shareholding ½, Gulf Oil 1¼, Middle West Utilities (new) 1¼, and Petroleum Corporation ⅜.

Celanese Corporation of America improved 1⅜ to 31, while American Super-Power Preferred "B" marked up 1⅛ to 29⅜.

Eng. Equiv	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Fri.
309⅝	Aluminium America	301	300
1298⅛	American Gas and Electric	126¼	127
262½	American Light and Traction	255	254
30⅜	Am. Super Pow. Pfd. "B"	29⅜	28¼
463⅛	Associated Gas and Electric A	45½	45½
39⅛	Brazilian Traction Light & Power	38⅛	38
—	British American Oil (Coupon)	—	46½
317⅙	Celanese Corp. of Amer. Con.	31	29¼
30⅜	Cities Service	29⅜	29⅝
108⅛	Cons. Gas L. & P. of Baltimore	106⅝	106½
6⅛	Creole Oil	6⅛	6⅛
190½	Duke Power	185	195
98	Electric Bond and Share	95⅝	93¾
21½	Electric Shareholding Common	20½	20
49⅛	Ford (Canada) New Voting 'B'	48	50
7½	Fox Theatre "A"	7½	7½
3⅛	General Baking Common	3¼	3
131⅛	General Realty & Utilities Company	12⅝	13¼
83⅜	Do. Prefd.	81½	81
146⅜	Gulf Oil of Penna	142¼	141¼
85½	Humble Oil	83½	84
28⅛	Imperial Oil of Canada (New Stock)	28⅝	25½
20½	International Petroleum	20⅛	20¼
86⅛	Lehmann Corporation	83⅝	82½
30⅞	Middle West Utilities (New)	29⅝	28⅜
121¼	Newmont Mining	118	117½
148⅛	Niagara Hudson Power Corporation	14¼	14⅛
—	North East Power	—	—
131⅜	Penn Road Corporation	13⅛	13¼
33⅝	People's Light and Power "A"	32½	32½
23⅜	Petroleum Corporation of America	22⅝	22
24⅛	Silica Gel, Corporation	24	23¼
77⅝	South East Power	7⅝	7½
55¼	Standard Oil of Indiana	53⅝	53½
33½	Swift International	32⅝	32⅜
52⅞	Universal Insurance	51	51
98⅛	Vacuum Oil	96¼	95⅝

FOREIGN SECURITIES.

16⅞	Anglo-American Oil Cts. of Dp.	16	16½
8¼	Anglo-Persian Ord*	8	8
6½	Associated Electrical Industries	6⅛	6¼
5⅝	Assoc. Port Cement Mfg. Ord. Regd.*	5⅛	5½
—	British Aluminium Ord. Regd	—	10
283⅜	Brit. Amer. Tobacco Ord. (Bearer)*	27⅝	27⅝
3⅛	British Celanese Ord.*	3¼	3¼
8¼	British South Africa Co.*	8	8½
3⅛	Burma Corporation	3⅛	3⅜
16⅛	Burmah Oil Ord. Regd.*	16	16
5⅝	Bwana M'Kubwa	5⅝	5½
1⅜	Cables and Wireless "B"*	1⅛	1½
44⅜	Carreras "A" Ord.*	43	43
4⅝	Do. "B" Ord.*	4½	4½
15⅞	J. and P. Coats Ord. Regd.*	15	15
13½	Courtaulds Ord.*	13⅛	13¼
2⅜	Dunlop Rubber Ord.*	2⅛	2⅛
2⅜	Fairey Aviation	2⅛	2⅛
11⅜	Ford (of England) £1 shares (fy.p.)	10⅞	10⅜
11⅜	General Elect. Ord.*	11¼	11¼
20⅜	Gramophone Ord.*	20	20
43⅛	Hydro-Electric	42¼	42⅛
6½	Imp. Chemical Indust. Ord.*	6⅛	6⅜
24⅞	Imp. Tobacco Gt. Britain Ord.*	23¾	23¾
6⅜	Johnson and Phillips Ord.*	6	6
7⅛	London Tin Syndi. Ord. Regd.	7⅛	7⅛
7⅜	Malacca Rubber	7	7
3¾	Marconi Canada†	3⅝	3¼
10⅞	Marconi Marine Ord.*	10⅛	10⅛
14⅜	Margarine Union Ord.*	14	14¼
221	Rio Tinto Ord.	215	210
31⅞	Roan Antelope‡	31	29⅜
8⅛	Rubber Trust	8¼	8⅛
1⅛	Spanish & Gen. Corp. Ord. Reg. & B'r.*	1⅛	1
6⅛	Triplex Glass Ord.*	6⅝	6⅝
27¾	United Molasses	27	27

* American Depository Receipt. †Warrants for Shares Sold. ‡ Warrants of Four Shares. § £1 units.

"SUNDAY TIMES" NEW YORK CLOSING PRICES.

RAILROADS.

Eng. equiv.	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Fri.	Eng. equiv.	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Fri.	Eng. equiv.	Stocks.	Closing bid. Sat.	Fri.
238⅛	Atchison	232½	231x	132⅛	Illinois Central	128½	128⅛	86⅜	Norfolk & W. Pf.	84	84x
106⅛	Do. Pref.	103¼	103¼	29⅛	Int. R. C. Am.	29	29	88⅛	Northern Pacific	85⅜	85½
173⅛	Atlantic C. L.	169	169	79⅛	Kans. City S.	77	77	81⅛	Pennsylvania	78⅞	78⅜x
121⅜	Baltimore & O.	118⅛	116¾	75	Lehigh Valley	73	72	159¼	P. Marquette	155	156
81⅛	Do. Pref.	79⅛	79	134⅝	Louisvl. & Nash	131	131	132⅜	Reading	129	130
204¾	Canadian Pac.	199¼	199	3⅛	Mex. Nat. 1st Pf.	3a	3c	49⅛	Do. 1st Pref.	48	48
216⅜	Central N.J.	308	300	11⅜	Do. 2nd Pref.	11⅜	11⅜	112	S. Louis S. Fran.	109	108¾
222¼	Ches. & Ohio	216¼	214	55⅞	Missri. K. & Tex.	54⅜	53½	66⅛	St. Louis S.W.	65	63
15⅞	Chic. G. West.	15	14⅝	107⅜	Do. Pref.	104⅞	104⅞	10⅜	Sea. Air Line	10⅛	9½
40⅛	Do. Prfd.	39	38⅝	90⅞	Missouri Pacific	88	89	124⅝	Southern Pacific	121	121
25½	Chic. Mil. St. P.	24½	24¼	137⅛	Do. Pref.	134⅛	135	136⅛	Southern Rly.	133	134
44⅛	Do. Pref.	43¼	42½	29⅛	Minn. St. Paul	29	29	100¾	Do. Pref.	98	98
87⅛	Chicago N.W.	85½	85	59⅜	Do. Pref.	58	58	120¾	Texas & Pacific	117⅛	117½
122¼	Chic. Rock Is.	119	117½	186⅝	N.Y. Central	181⅝	180½	276⅝	Union Pacific	220½	219½
175¾	Delaware & H.	171	171	141½	N.Y. Chic. St. L	138	135	84¼	Do. Pref.	82	82
142⅛	Delaware Lack.	139	138½	112½	Do. Pref.	109½	109	58⅞	Wabash New	57	57
609⅜	Erie	59⅛	57⅜	116⅜	N.Y. N. H. & Hrt.	113¼	111½	85⅛	Do. Pref. A.	83	83
63⅜	Do. 1st Pf.	61⅝	61⅝	143⅜	N.Y. Ont. & W.	143⅜	141¼				
98⅛	Gt. Nthn. Pf.	96	96¾	246½	Norfolk & West	240	240	19½	d Silver	43½	43¼

a Bid, 31⅜ asked. *b* Bid, 11¼ asked. *c* Bid, 31⅜ asked. *d* Bid, 11¼ asked.

INDUSTRIALS.

27	Abitibi P. and P.	26¼	26	13⅛	Cuba Co.	12¾	13	61⅜	May Dpt. Strs.	59½	59
30½	Adams Express	29⅝	29	8⅜	Cub. Am. Sug.	8⅛	8⅛	49⅛	Montg. Ward	48	48⅛
128½	Air Reduction	125	122	7⅜	Cub. Cane Sug.	7⅜	7⅜	56½	Nash Motors	55	53½
28⅜	Alleghany Corp.	27⅞	25⅞	2⅜	Do. Pref.	2¼	2	217⅜	Natl. Biscuit	212	212
287⅛	Allied C. and Dye	280	277	—	Curtiss Aero	—	—	81⅛	Natl. Cash Reg.	79⅝	79½
59½	Allis-Chalmers	57⅜	57⅝	34⅜	Davison Chem.	33¼	33	49⅞	Natl. Dairy	48¼	46¼
7⅜	Am. Agri. Chem.	7⅛	7⅛	25⅞	Debenh'm Secs.	24¾	24⅝	69⅜	National Lead	165	168
45⅛	Am. Bosch. Mg.	43⅞	43⅞	83¼	Drug Incorptd.	81	79	30⅛	Nevada Cons. C.	30	33
133⅛	Am. Can.	130⅝	129⅞	38	Dunhill Intntl.	37	36⅛	301⅛	Otis Elevator	295	292
42	Am. Internat.	40⅞	40⅝	132⅛	Du Pont Nms.	128½	124⅝	171⅜	Packard Motors	17	16⅜
102	Am. Loco.	99¼	100	199⅜	Eastman Kodak	194	193	65	P. Famous Lasky	63¼	61¾
34⅞	Am. Radiator & Stand. San. Co.	33¼	33⅞	41⅜	Elec. Stor. Bat.	75¼	75	27⅝	Park & Tilford	27	27
93¼	Am. Rolling Mills	90⅜	91	31½	Equit. Bdg. Cm	40½	40¼	33⅛	Penick & Ford	33	31¾
76⅛	Am. Smelt. & R.	74	73⅝	54⅝	Fox Film "A"	30⅜	30⅝	41⅛	Phelps Dodge	40	41
50⅞	Am. Steel Fs.	49½	49¼	74⅜	Gen. Asphalt	53¼	52⅜	86⅜	Pullman Co.	84¼	84
66⅛	Am. Sugar Ref.	65	64½	52⅛	Gen. Electric	72⅝	72⅜	34⅛	Remington Tpe.	33⅞	33⅞
228⅛	Am. Tobacco "B"	222	224	46	Gen. Foods Cor.	51	50⅞	76⅛	Republic I. & S.	74	74½
101¼	Am. Woollen	10	10	74⅝	Gen. Motors	44¾	42¾	56⅛	Reynold Tob. B.	55⅜	53½
15⅛	Am. Zinc	15½	15⅞	105⅜	Gen. Refractors	72⅝	73	55½	St. Joseph Ld.	54	54⅞
77⅛	Anaconda	75¼	75⅜	47	Gillette Razor	102¾	103¼x	102¼	Sears-Robk.	99½	99½
80⅜	Armour Del. Pref.	78	78	118	Goodrich B. F.	45¾	45¾	43⅜	Sloss-Shef. Stl.	42	40
35⅞	Assoc. Dry Goods	34½	34⅝	238⅜	Gt. N. Ore Cts.	23	23½	27⅞	Stan. Brands	26⅞	26⅞
80⅛	Atlantic Gulf	78	78	30⅛	Gt. W. Sugar	30⅛	30⅛	46⅜	Studebaker Cn.	45⅜	44⅞
33⅛	*Baldwin Loco.	32¼	32	62⅛	Hudson Motors	61¼	58½	42⅜	Tobacco Prods.	41⅜	43⅜
104⅜	Bethlem. Steel	101⅝	101¼	177¾	Ingersoll Rand.	173	165	94⅝	Union Carbide	91¼	90
16⅛	Briggs Mfg.	16⅜	16	30⅝	Inspiration Cp.	29½	29¼	48⅞	United Aircraft	47	44⅞
30⅛	Calumet and H.	30	30½	7⅛	Int. Combustion	7¼	7⅛	37⅞	United Corp.	36⅞	36⅝
64¼	Cerro de Pasco	62⅛	62½	92	Int. Harvester	89½	89½	103	United Fruit	100¼	103
58⅜	Chile Copper	57	57	77⅝	Int. Match Pref.	76½	76	12⅜	U.S. In. Alcohol	12	11⅝
82¼	Christie Brown	80	80	27⅝	Int. M. Marine	27	26½	91¼	U.S. Leather	9	8⅝
39½	Chrysler Motor	38⅝	37⅜	38⅛	Intern. Nickel	37⅞	37¾	27⅞	U.S. Pipe	27⅛	26¾
46¼	Color. Fuel and I.	45	45	27¾	Intern. Paper 'A'	27	26¼x	67⅞	U.S. Realty Im.	65⅝	65½
200⅛	Columbia Carb.	194⅜	191½	5⅛	Kelly-Spring T.	5	5	27⅛	U.S. Rubber	26⅜	25¾
28⅞	Columbia Graph.	28⅛	28⅛	61⅛	Kennecott Cop.	59½	59	34⅛	U.S. Smelting	33⅜	33¼
50⅜	Congress Cigar	49	50	9¼	Kresge D. Stres.	9	9	189⅛	U.S. Steel	184⅜	184¼
56	Consolid. Cigar	54½	53⅞	34⅜	Kresge S.S.	33⅝	33⅜	144⅞	Do. Pref.	141	141¼x
45¼	Cont. Baking. A.	44	43⅜	29⅜	Kreuger & Toll	28⅜	28⅛	190⅛	Utah Copper	185	250
6⅛	Do. B.	5⅞	5⅝	105⅞	Lambert Co.	102¼	102¼	66⅛	Vanadium Cpn.	65⅛	66x
50⅛	Do. Pref.	89½	89⅛	105⅛	Liggett Myers.	103	103	167⅛	Westinghouse	162⅜	163½
60½	Cont. Can.	59¼	55⅝x	41⅛	Lima Loco.	40⅜	40⅝	99⅜	Willys Overld.	9⅛	8⅞
17⅜	Congoleum	16¾	17	62⅛	Loew's Incor.	61¼	59½	70½	Woolworth	69	68½
99½	Corn Prod. Rf.	97	94¼	65¼	Loose-W. Bsct.	63½	63¼	83¼	Worthn. Pump.	81	82
93	Crucible Steel	90⅛	89⅜	82½	Mack Trucks	80¼	78¼	124⅝	Y'ungstn Sheet	121	121

g Asked.

PUBLIC UTILITIES.

98¼	Am. & For. Power	95⅝	96	62½	Elec. P. and L.	60⅜	60⅜	236⅜	Philadel. Com.	230	230
92½	Am. Pow. & L'ht.	90	88⅛	49⅝	Engin'rs P. Serv.	48	48¼	91⅛	Pub. Serv. N.J.	88⅞	90
236⅜	Am. Tel. and Tg.	233	223½	31⅜	Int. Rapid Trns.	30½	30½	38⅞	Radio Corpn.	37⅜	38¼
97⅜	Am. Water Wks.	95	94½	71⅞	Int. Tel. Teleg.	69¼	66	121½	Standard Gas	111¾	116
86⅜	Columbia Gas	84¼	84¼	38⅛	Nat. Pow. & Light	37⅛	36¾	38⅛	United Gas Imp.	37¼	37⅝
146⅜	Comwlth. Power	142¼	138	106½	North Am. Co.	103⅝	102⅝	34⅛	Utilities P. & L.	34	34⅛
16⅞	Comwlth. Sthn.	16	15½	56⅝	Pacific G. & El.	55⅛	54⅛	216⅞	W. Union Tlg.	211	204
114⅞	Con. Gas (N.Y.)	111¼	111	244⅜	Peoples Gas	238	238				

OILS.

36¼	Associated	35¼	35½	11⅜	Pacific	11⅛	11⅜	62⅝	Stnd. Calif. (new)	60⅝	60½
39⅛	Atlantic Refin.	38⅞	38½	54⅜	Pan Amer. B	52¾	52½	66⅜	Do. N.J.	64¾	65⅛
23½	Barnsdall Crp.	22⅞	23¼	34⅛	Phillips Pet.	33⅞	33⅞	35⅛	Do. N.Y.	32⅞	33⅛
28¾	California Pet.	28	28	24⅛	Pure Oil	23½	23¼	56¼	Texas Corpn.	54⅝	54½
23⅜	Cont. Oil of Del.	23	22¾	54⅜	Royal Dutch	52¾	52⅜	12⅜	Tidewater	11⅞	12x
22⅝	Lago	22	22	46¾	Shell	45½	45¼	91⅜	Transcontinental	9¼	9¼
27¼	Mid-Cont. Pet.	26½	26½	23⅜	Shell Union	22¾	22⅞	45¼	Union Oil Calif.	44	44¼
				26⅛	Sinclair	25⅜	25⅜				

BONDS—GOVERNMENT, ETC.

106⅛	U.S. 3½% T. Bds.	103⅝	103⅝	103¾	Chile 7% 1942	101	101	105⅛	Norway 6% 1952	102¼	102¼
113⅛	U.S. 4½% T. Bds.	110⅜	110⅜	114⅛	Czech 8% 1951	111	111	77⅛	Poland 6% 1940	76	75
101⅛	Lib. Ln. 3½ '32-47	99⅛	99⅛	104⅛	Dutch E.I. 6% 1962	102	102	85⅛	Do. 7% 1947	83½	83¾
103⅛	Do. 4¼% '32-47	100⅛	100⅜	105⅜	Do. 5½% 1953	102⅝	102⅝	96⅞	Do. 8% 1950	94¼	95
103⅛	Do. 4¼% '33-38	100⅛	101	95⅛	Finland 6% 1945	92½	92½	98⅛	R. do Sul. 8% 1946	95½	96
99⅛	Argen. 6% 1959	96⅝	96	117⅛	French 7% 1949	114¾	114⅜	83⅞	Rumanian 7% 1959	81⅝	82⅞
91⅝	Austl. 5% 1967	89⅛	89½	123⅛	Do. 7% 1949	120½	120¾	94⅛	S. Paulo 8% 1950	91½	91
106¼	Austria 7% 1943	103¼	103⅝	103⅛	German 7% 1949	106¾	107	110⅞	Seine 7% 1942	107½	107
105⅛	Belgian 6% 1955	103	103	101	Greek 7% 1964	98¼	98½	81⅛	Serbia 7% 1962	78⅞	78⅞
113⅛	Do 7% 1955	110¼	110¼	104⅜	Heidlbrg. 7% 1950	101¾	101	90⅞	Do. 8% 1962	88	88
106⅜	Borde'x 6% 1934	103¾	103¾	103¾	Hungary 7½% '44	101	101	106⅝	Swed. 5½% 1954	103¾	104
102⅜	Brazil 7½% 1952	100	100	99⅛	Irish Free St. 5% '60	97	97	106⅜	U.K. 5½% 1937	103⅛	103⅝
79⅜	Bulg. 7% 1967	77½	76	101⅛	Italian 7% 1951	98⅜	98¼	86⅜	U.K. Fund. 4%	84¼	82⅝
102¾	Canada 5% 1931	100	100	105⅜	Japan 6½% 1964	102¾	103	100⅛	U.K. 5% War Loan	97⅛	97⅛
				104⅛	N.Y. City 4½% 57	101⅞	101⅞				

BONDS—RAILROAD AND INDUSTRIAL.

95⅛	Atc. Gn. 4% 1995	92½	92⅝	81⅝	N.Y. Cn. 3½% 1997	79⅛	79⅛	99⅛	S. Pac. 4½% '69	97¼	97¼
155⅛	Am. Tel. 4½% '33	148	145⅞	108½	Do. 6% 1935	106⅝	106	103⅜	Do. Con. 5% '54	100⅝	100⅜
101⅛	Balt. Cn. 4½% '33	98⅝	98⅞	101⅜	N.Y. Tel. 4½% '39	99	99¼	91⅝	S.R.D.G. 4% 1956	88⅞	88⅞
99⅛	*Cpk Gn. 4½% '92	97¼	97¼	65⅝	N. Pac. 3% 2047	63⅞	64	110⅛	S.Rly. 1st 5% 1994	107⅛	107⅛
93¼	Ch. Mk 5% Mrt.	90¾	91⅝	91⅝	Do. 4% 1997	89⅛	89⅛	96⅛	U. Pc l Mt 4% 1947	93½	93½
74¼	Do. 5% Adj.	72¼	72¼	101¼	Pennsy. 4½% 1965	98¼	98¼	99½	Do. Cnv. 4½% 1967	97	97
82¼	Erie Ln. 4% '96	80	79¼	100⅜	Readg. 4½% A 1997	98	98				
85⅛	Do. 4% S.A. '53	83½	83½	98⅛	R.I. Rfdg. 4% 1934	95¾	96	107⅞	Est. Rly. 7% 1954	105	105
100⅛	Intl. M. Mar. '41	97½	97½	91½	Rock Is. 4% 1988	89	89	107⅜	Nord Ry. 6½% 1950	104½	104
102	Lk. Shore 4% '31	99¼	99¼	56½	Seab'd A. 5% '49	55	55	106⅞	P.L.M. 6% 1958	104	104
107⅛	Ms. K. 5% Adj. A.	104¼	104¼	94⅝	S. Pac. 1st R. '56	91¾	91⅝	108½	Do. 7% 1958	105⅝	106
88⅜	Do. 4% B.	86	86	93½	Do. Col. 4% '49	91	91		* New.		

[Quotations from the "Sunday Times" New York Correspondent and Reuter's Agency.]

AUCTION BRIDGE.

Conducted by YARBOROUGH.

ENTERPRISE IN BIDDING

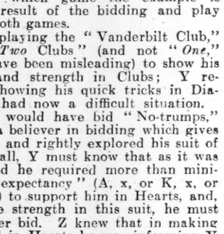
Both in Auction and Contract lack of enterprise in bidding means in the long run many wasted opportunities. Bids and overbids, can be made in either game on two or three hands in the majority of deals; and when in doubt, a bid should generally be made. Of course there must be the essential foundation of sure tricks to justify a bid; but when in possession of slightly over the minimum of two sure tricks, it is usually unwise to avoid initiating bidding or to omit joining in it in the early stages. Hands are often thrown in both at Auction and Contract where profitable bids could have been made. The opening bid in Contract should normally be made on a slightly stronger hand than the Auction minimum, and this should have an influence in causing more hands to be thrown in at the former game; but, generally speaking, there is no appreciable difference between the number of hands thrown in at the two games. I have seen many opportunities missed by hands thrown in at both games, while, on the other hand, the instances are fairly rare (and then generally due to bad judgment), where a side has suffered the loss of a game or severe penalty through an enterprising opening bid.

My own impression is that there is too big a proportion of missed opportunities through backwardness in bidding in the early stages. Rashness in the early stages pays as handsomely as caution in the later stages. Missed opportunities are not confined to the side which should initiate bidding. The defending side also must not miss an opportunity to get in an early bid as an informatory signal to the partner.

These considerations lead up to the question of exploratory bidding generally, which I will discuss in connection with two examples from recent play.

GETTING THE GAME IN A MINOR SUIT.

In the first example, the partners' hands were as follows:—



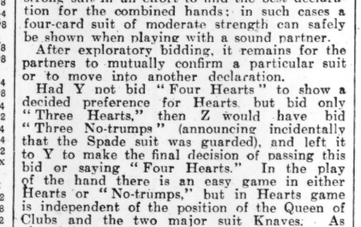
The score was AB, nil; YZ, 10. The dealer, Y, passed on a hand which, though deficient in medium honours, was distinctly over the average. B said "No Bid." Z, knowing that his partner was a timid caller, and having the equivalent of the two sure tricks which justify an opening bid, ventured on "Two Diamonds." He considered this gave the best picture of his hand in that, being 10 up, it was in a sense a suggestion that the best chance of game lay in exploring the possibilities of a long Diamond suit. As third hand Z should not have opened the bidding on this hand. His Diamond suit was not solid enough, nor was the compensating outside strength adequate; however, his judgment in opening the bidding on this hand, knowing he had a safe partner, was rewarded with a game. YZ only lost one trick in Hearts and two in Clubs. Had Z passed the hands would have been thrown in and an opportunity of scoring a game would have been missed. This is an interesting example of the necessity for increased boldness to offset a partner's timidity.

On these occasions of a doubtful opening bid a partial score is of great importance. When cards are pretty evenly distributed the side with a partial score has more to gain by opening the bidding. When neither side can go the whole way to game, it is not worth while incurring a risk to make a partial score; but when already in possession of one, and when it is so much easier to make a game, then opportunities must not be missed by backwardness in opening the bidding on hands which, though not rich in quick tricks, have great possibilities for a further partial score in a long suit.

FINDING A FOUR-CARD MAJOR SUIT.

Here is an example of another kind. The feature here was that the best declaration was found by judicious exploratory bidding. The question was not one of timidity or otherwise in opening the bidding, but of imaginative boldness, tempered with judgment, in the subsequent bidding.

The hands were as follows:—



and the bidding proceeded thus: Z (dealer), "Two Clubs"; A, "No Bid"; Y, "Two Diamonds"; B, "No Bid"; Z, "Two Hearts"; A, "No Bid"; Y, "Four Hearts," and all passed. The score was love-all, and, as is seen by the last bid, Contract was being played—the principle involved, as usually happens, being the same in both, so it is immaterial from which game the example is selected. The result of the bidding and play is common to both games.

Z, who was playing the "Vanderbilt Club," had to bid "*Two* Clubs" (and not "*One*," which would have been misleading) to show his quick tricks and strength in Clubs; Y responded with showing his quick tricks in Diamonds, and Z had now a difficult situation.

Most players would have bid "No-trumps," but Z was not a believer in bidding which gives no information, and rightly explored his suit of Hearts. After all, Y must know that as it was not Z's first bid he required more than minimum "normal expectancy" (A, x, or K, x, or Q, x, or x, x, x) to support him in Hearts, and, failing adequate strength in this suit, he must make some other bid. Z knew that in making a secondary bid in Hearts he was informing Y that there was no game in Diamonds (just as Y had informed him there was no game in Clubs), and that he was exploring a moderately strong suit in an effort to find the best declaration for the combined hands; in such cases a four

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THE DRAMATIC WORLD.

HIGHBROW JINKS.

By JAMES AGATE.

Daly's. Thursday, January 30.

"THIS WAY TO PARADISE."

A Play. Adapted by Campbell Dixon from Aldous Huxley's "Point Counter Point."

This play—if it is a play—is a rum mixture, not inaptly mirrored by the single sentence which made the old lady decline the book at the circulating library :—"'Another whiskey, Miss!' said the choir-boy.". How can one concoct an ordered world out of a scheme of things in which choir-boys drink whiskey? If the old lady had persevered she would have found that the toper was middle-aged, though innocence lingered in his features. But there is no such method of explaining away the jumble which the piece presents on the stage. We leave the theatre half-terrifically impressed, and half-suspecting that we have been terrifically humbugged. As a pointer to Paradise, the piece does more than equivocate. It lies. That is, of course, if it be taken to point the way to anything. "What's all this ambiguity?" asked the Irish orator. "Shure, no man can be ambiguous enough to plaise himself!" Mr. Huxley can.

However, one must attempt to size up or, if it be preferred, indicate the "total gesture" of this play. On to the landing at Tantamount House troop, dribble, and foregather all the characters at Lady Edward Tantamount's musical evening. They sip, chatter, and at intervals look down over the taffrail or balustrade into the surging sea of fashionables gathered below. The balustrade is level with the footlights, and the scene is a wonderful bit of stagecraft. We spend the next half-hour comparing the actors with their prototypes. Lady Edward has the Tantamount elegance and the Tantamount poise. For is she not played by Miss Violet Vanbrugh? Mr. Morris Harvey is obviously John Bidlake, the huge, exuberant painter who has run to luxury. Mr. Henry West's General Knoyle is the authentic dotard. In the middle distance Mr. Miles Malleson, benignly bearded, is tilting back on Sydney Quarles's heels and exploiting his "martyred and fatuously arrogant" air. Mr. George Merritt's Frank Illidge, who should be small, alert, and jerky like a street-Arab, is ponderous, slow-moving, and not unlike an overlooker in a Lancashire cotton-mill. Miss Clare Harris's Mrs. Betterton is too young, too little pretentious, and has not shed enough of the actress's repertory sincerity. Lucy Tantamount is all wrong. The actress for her was surely Miss Valerie Taylor. Miss Prudence Vanbrugh endows Lucy with something of the silky affectionateness of the spaniel, and could never in the cab have driven Lucy's sharp file-pointed nails into Walter Bidlake's wrist. Walter does not appear in the play. But Maurice Spandrell does, and his eyeglass and black tie folded twice round his neck bespeak the dilettante, communist, and cocksure inquirer after God. Mr. Leon M. Lion, desisting from the leonine, makes a perfect little jackall of him. Rampion is a success, too; and Mr. Clarke-Smith, who never seems to stop talking, makes the fellow tingle with brains. Mr. Lawrence Hanray is that superb humbug, Denis Burlap, to the life. Mr. Alan Napier is a good and sufficient Everard Webley, the Fascist. And if I have left Mr. Arthur Wontner's easy-mannered Philip Quarles to the last, it is because Mr. Huxley's adapter has very nearly left him out of the play.

An "All-Talkie."

The first act is a mass of talk, earnest, perverse, witty, significant, unintelligible, profound, and sometimes mere blethers. Finally, Lucy Tantamount tells Spandrell that she expects great things from him :—"Unless you just go on chattering." And Spandrell echoes :—"Unless I just go on chattering!" But we foresee action behind his words and reflect that while there are still two acts there is hope. The second act has three scenes. In the first Philip Quarles is busy neglecting his wife, Elinor (Miss Joyce Kenneuy), a dull young woman who only knows that she has unloaded her affections on Philip. The theme of the bored husband and the wifely pest is age-long, but in this scene it is handled freshly. Presently the familiar covey of talkers descends, Webley among them, and Elinor declares to all and sundry that he is a better man than her husband. Then, just at the point where the average dramatist would begin his scene, Mr. Huxley, or rather Mr. Dixon, drops his curtain. For he, or they, have other fish to fry. The second scene in this act is simply a cadenza for Mr. Malleson, a cadenza on a stenographic theme. This is the greatest possible fun. The third scene takes us back to Philip Quarles's house. Elinor, who is called away to look after her sick baby, invites Spandrell to wait and entertain Webley, with whom she has a rendezvous. What follows is completely preposterous, but after that kind of preposterousness which we only accept from our more mountainous highbrows. Illidge drifts in, and we remember some talk of their common hatred of Webley and his Movement, and also some vague allusions to Charlotte Corday. But Charlotte was never a dilettante, and when Spandrell makes choice among Philip's knobkerries, arranges a screen, and behind it rehearses the murder of Webley, anybody who had not read the book would be justified in thinking that these preparations, like Coleridge's conversation, are only Spandrell's fun. This impression is strengthened when Spandrell says to Illidge :—"You can have the honour" From golf to murder is a far step, but Spandrell takes it easily, and Webley, entering, gets his skull knocked in. After which Spandrell repeats the rhapsody in the novel about the events which may lie latent in a womb of two hours. At this point the audience was inclined towards laughter, and it needed this fine speech and the fine handling it received from Mr. Lion to retrieve the situation.

Action at Last.

The third act has two scenes, in the first of which we are asked to accept the old sentimental solution to the outworn marriage-problem. Elinor's baby is dead, or at least I think I heard that it was, and certainly Webley is finished. So Philip takes Elinor in his arms, and we are asked to believe that he will never again be bored. How sentimentally when they fall, fall the intellectuals! In the last scene of this act the play may be said to begin, that is if it be intended to convey some inkling of whatever meaning Mr. Huxley will permit us to attach to his novel. The ground is once more thick with talkers, intoxicated for the last time with the exuberance of their author's celebrated verbosity. At the rate of one hundred and nineteen to the dozen they are trying to find nothing less than the meaning of life. Spandrell wants people to have souls, whereas Rampion stands up for the body. Finally, the discussion centres in the nature of work, and whether even that is not a dope. At once we think of Tolstoy and that passage in "War and Peace" in which it is laid down that while the desire of Man is to be idle his conscience forces him to work. Therefore, argued Tolstoy, the perfect profession for a man is one in which he can be idle and still feel he is of use. "Hence the military." However, the talk continues. With a quarter of an hour left to go Spandrell begins to tackle that metabiological phenomenon to which everything else in Mr. Huxley's novel is related—the fact that something which was once a speck, a blob of jelly, an embryo, can grow to a man comprehending Heaven and Earth.

Spandrell then puts the slow movement of Beethoven's A minor Quartet on the gramophone and declares that it proves the existence of a First Cause And we reflect three things—first that the disc proves the existence only of Beethoven and Edison; second that, rationally considered, the music, though beatific, offers no more proof of a First Cause than does sunshine and rain or the malignant typhoid-bacillus; and third that all sentimental deductions only land one in still further difficulties. However, the record continues playing, there is a knock at the door, and the two young Fascists, whom Spandrell has summoned to arrest him as Webley's murderer, enter. Whereupon our dilettante who has discovered God in a gramophone record attempts to add yet another murder to his precious soul. But the Fascists are better shots, and Spandrell is killed. Whaur's your "total gesture" noo?

The piece is well-staged and brilliantly acted throughout.

Lyric, Hammersmith. Wednesday, Jan. 29.

"DANDY DICK."

Revival of the Farce by Sir Arthur Pinero.

The bug of burlesque has badly bitten Sir Nigel Playfair, who sees as a comedy an old-fashioned tragedy which used to frighten the apprentices out of their wits, eighteenth-century comedy as decoration, and modern farce as burlesque. The spirit of his present production of Sir Arthur Pinero's "Dandy Dick" is either a thousand miles or a hair's breadth away from the spirit in which the piece was first performed, and in these matters a miss is as good as a thousand miles. This is not to say that the production is not extraordinarily entertaining. It is hugely entertaining, but it entertains in a way quite different from that of 1887. When this farce was first produced the people in it were credible, though presented in the key of farce, both to the audience and to one another. But the times have changed, and to-day we laugh wholeheartedly at manners which now seem as incredible as the clothes of the period. But that is not where the burlesque comes in, for we should still do this even if the piece were played as straight farce. It is when we become convinced that the people in the farce are incredible to one another that we know the spirit of burlesque to be abroad, and I submit that the Hammersmith production amply proves this.

One thinks it is the visage and comportment of the actor who plays Major Tarver which are chiefly responsible for striking the key from which the play can never afterwards depart. The fellow, in Mr. George Skillan's hands, is a figure of immense fun, but it is the fun of the three amorous dragoons in "Patience." In the scene in which he and Mr. Darbey of the —th Hussars pay court to the two young ladies, the whole quartet speaks with the curious detachment and enunciation proper to the creatures of Gilbert's fancy. You could swear that you were listening to a libretto for which Sullivan had omitted to write the music.

Despite this semi-trifling but really important matter, the play goes with an immense swing, showing in every word and situation the master-mind and master-hand of one who, when he chose, was the greatest of English farce-writers. Its acting is a trifle uneven. Sir Nigel Playfair tries to subdue his natural, perky buoyancy to the required degree of cavernous gloom. The attempt is brave, but there is now hardly enough body left in the character to last out the play. Indeed, there seems no particular indignity in the incarceration of this dean. Noah Topping, the village constable, should always run away with the last act, and that he doesn't is due to the fact that Mr. Reyner Barton's drollery is studied rather than natural, and that studied drollery can never be drollery at all. Mr. Alfred Clark makes a good Blore, and the lesser members of the cast are fair. Remains Miss Marie Löhr, who quite rightly plays the fool to the top of her and everybody else's bent. This is a really brilliant performance, exactly in the right spirit, and suggests to me that when next Drury Lane wants a principal boy But there are some dreams too gorgeous ever to be fulfilled. Burlesque or no burlesque, this is a revival which nobody should miss.

Criterion. Tuesday, January 28.

"MILESTONES."

Revival of the Play by Arnold Bennett and Edward Knoblock.

It is really too late in the day to begin recounting what a good play this is. In its kind it is little short of a masterpiece, and it would always have been one if the authors had cut out the last four words: "We live and learn." The whole point of the play has been that nobody ever does anything of the sort.

All that is necessary, therefore, is to appraise the acting, which I take to be, on the whole and with one notable exception, less good than I have seen in any previous performance of this piece. The exception is Miss Clare Eames, who re-creates in her own way of utmost distinction and perfect loveliness the part still unforgettably associated with Miss Haidée Wright. These two noble performances complement each other without harm to either. Miss Emmie Arthur-Williams makes a charming impression in the first act, though the rest of the piece is at present beyond her range and skill. But the whole difficulty here is that of being able to look and play on the same evening the parts of Juliet, her mother, and her nurse. The piece is produced by Miss Dorothy Cheston, who, having cast herself for Emily Rhead, gallantly takes the consequences of the first half of her rôle, but makes ample retrieval in the second. As the Yorkshire lass Miss Viola Lyel acts vivaciously and well. The men are good to middling, Mr. Ion Swinley falling happily into the former category. But, however acted, it's a great play, and must always make a good evening. Even amateurs can't spoil it, though doubtless many have tried.

Apollo. Wednesday, January 29.

"NINE TILL SIX."

A Comedy. By Aimée and Philip Stuart.

This is a most attractive little play. The scene is laid partly on the Mezzanine Floor, whatever that may be, of a dressmaking shop in Regent Street, and partly in the retiring-rooms of those Junos whose job it is to jog the vanity of Modom. There is a plot about a stolen frock which might have come out of any girl's magazine. But the plot is not the point. For, as one is always remarking, a play, like everything else, must have some sort of peg to hang on. The real point about this piece is that it gives an extraordinarily interesting glimpse into a side of life which up to now has been counted among the greater mysteries, that it presents a series of extremely entertaining character-studies, that there are no men in it, and that you don't miss the clumsier sex. In addition there is a scene of community disrobing which should turn the single exponents of that art yellow with rage This odd, funny little piece is extremely well played by a cast so wildly good that I refuse to mention anybody. It is perfectly produced by Miss Auriol Lee, and should, in my opinion, run several months, say from nine to six.

Fourteen performances, beginning on Wednesday, at the Arts Theatre, will be given of "The Command to Love," in which Miss Stella Arbenina, Mr. Frederick Culley, Mr. H. R. Hignett, Mr. Hugh Higson, Miss Barbara Hoffe, and Mr. Norman V. Norman will appear. The play is adapted from the German by Herman Bernstein and Brian Marlow.

The Oxford University Dramatic Society's presentation of "Macbeth" will begin on February 11 at the New Theatre, Oxford, and will continue until February 15. Miss Gwen Ffrangçon-Davies will be Lady Macbeth, Mr. Valentine Dyall will be Macbeth, and other leading parts will be played by Mr. Wyndham Goodden, Mr. Giles Playfair, and Mr. E. E. Sabben-Clare. Mr. Brewster Morgan, the president, will produce the play.

Max Beerbohm's "Savanarola Brown" is at last to be staged. It will be presented by Sir Nigel Playfair at the Haymarket on February 25 at a matinée in aid of the Oxford Preservation Trust. This is the fulfilment of an old ambition of Sir Nigel, who, so that the stage directions (an important decoration) may not be lost, will read them himself. He has collected an Oxonian cast, among whom are Mr. D. A. Clarke-Smith, Mr. Herbert Waring, Mr. Reggie Smith, Mr. Richard Goolden, Mr. Gyles Isham, Mr. Robert Speaight, and Miss Marie Ney. Mr. Temple Abady, who was responsible for the music of the O.U.D.S.'s production of "Henry IV., Part II.," and "The Tempest," has composed the songs and incidental music. Other items of the programme have been composed by Messrs. Dick Addinsell, John Buchan, Compton Mackenzie, Forbes Patrick, Paul Reubens, John Hastings Turner, and Miss Helen Simpson.

PLAYS AND PLAYERS

POETS ON THE STAGE.

To-night.—Prince of Wales: "47."
Strand: "The Fiddler Played It Wrong."
Feb. 3.—Q: "Owner Gone Abroad."
Victoria Palace: "All Fit."
Feb. 4.—Everyman: "Charles and Mary."
Garrick: "Almost a Honeymoon."
Gate: "Long Live Death."
Feb. 5.—Arts: "The Command to Love."
Feb. 7.—St. Martin's: "Honours Easy."
Players Theatre: "Dinner is Served."
Feb. 9.—Apollo: "Singing Jailbirds."

Charles Lamb is made the subject of a play on the English stage for the first time, and will be seen in his turmoil of protecting his sister from her insanity, in "Charles and Mary" at the Everyman on Tuesday. There are naturally dramatic scenes in Lamb's life-are naturally dramatic scenes in Lamb's life-story; and one wonders (though one does not regret) that this should be the first time a playwright makes use of them. The author is a woman, Miss Joan Temple, and she herself appears in the piece as Mary. I understand her chief theme is an accentuation of the contrast in Charles Lamb who, gay and sparkling to the outer world, endures great tragedy in his intimate life. The first act gives Mary's murder of her mother, and after that Charles is shown renouncing Hester, the Quakeress, whom he loved, so as to devote his care to his sister.

It is interesting to hear that, besides the great essayist, others of England's great literary figures will step on to the stage on this occasion. There are Coleridge and Wordsworth, portrayed by Mr. Deering Wells and Mr. Albert Raynor, and other minor figures of the period: George Dyer, the absent-minded poet, and Godwin, the publisher. Mr. Peter Ridgeway will take the part of Charles Lamb; Miss Jean Shepheard will be the Quakeress; and Mrs. Lamb will be played by Miss Gertrude Herroll; the father by Harold Scott; George Dyer by Andrew Leigh; Godwin by Philip Hatfield; Mrs. Godwin by Winifred Evans. Others in the cast will be Mr. Wilfred Babbage, Miss Yvonne Rorie, Mr. Douglas Burbidge, and Miss Dorothy Hamilton. Mr. Ridgeway, I learn, in addition, has just dramatised "Calf Love," the recent successful novel of Mr. Vernon Bartlett.

To-night the Stage Society are giving a sensational drama of the Irish Troubles, "47," by an Australian, Mr. Sydney Loch. His experience of the country arose from a visit there to collect material for his book "Ireland in Travail." It perhaps argues for his impartiality that he was at various times arrested by all the parties involved, by the Black and Tans, by the Sinn Feiners (because he looked like an Englishman), and by the Orangemen (because he had just been in Dublin). I understand he is now in Greece with the intention of writing a book on that country. "47" is the number by which the hero is known to the British Secret Service. Mr. Colin Clive plays this part, and other players are: Miss Mary Grew, Miss Josephine Middleton, Miss Ethel O'Shea, Miss Alice O'Day, Mr. Reggie Smith, Mr. Robin Irvine, Mr. Cecil Landeau, Mr. Roland Culver, and Mr. George More O'Ferrall.

Mr. Peter Godfrey will produce a "thriller," written by himself, at the Gate Theatre on Tuesday. It is "Long Live Death," a present-day melodrama in nine scenes. The theme is unusual; rival scientists discover a means of separating the souls from the bodies of human beings while they are alive. The "soul" takes on the visible appearance of the body it inhabits, so that one human being becomes two. A man and a girl are "separated" in this way, and in one scene the girl's two selves actually meet and carry on a conversation. Miss Dorothy Black and Mr. Eric Portman will play the parts of the "separated" human beings. Mr. Peter Godfrey and Mr. Arthur Goullet (the drunkard in "Ten Nights in a Bar-room") will be the scientists. Other actors are Miss Josephine Middleton, Miss Helen Goss, Miss Helen Vayne, and Miss Andree Tourneur.

A new comedy by Mr. Roland Pertwee, "Honours Easy," opens at the St. Martin's on Friday. Miss Diana Wynyard, who acted so strikingly in "The Devil" at the Arts Theatre, has a leading part, and Mr. John Hastings Turner is the producer. It is a comedy of modern life, set in a country house, a Bond Street art gallery, and a hotel bedroom in the country Mr. Norman McKinnel, Mr. Allan Aynesworth, Mr. Morton Selten, and Mr. Robert Holmes are also chief figures in the cast.

"The Fiddler Play'd It Wrong," to be presented at the Strand to-night by the Repertory Players, deals with divorce, and has Miss Louise Hampton, Miss Alison Leggat, Mr. Henry Hewitt, and Mr. H. G. Stoker in the cast. Mr. Edward Percy is the author and Miss Beatrice Wilson producer.

The Garrick will reopen on Tuesday with "Almost a Honeymoon," a farcical comedy, by Walter Ellis. Miss Renée Kelly and Mr. Gerald Pring are at the head of the cast.

A sixth edition of Mr. John Parker's "Who's Who in the Theatre" will be published this month by Sir Isaac Pitman and Son. It is revised and has nearly 500 new biographies. Dr J. M. Bulloch supplies tables of hereditary theatrical families, British and American, numbering more than 100.

Miss Nellie Wallace, the comedienne, will be the chief person in "All Fit," a new revue at the Victoria Palace to-morrow.

Two aeroplanes figure in "Silver Wings," which arrives at the Dominion on either February 13 or 14. Scenes before the start of an Atlantic flight, a glimpse of the flight itself, and a crash are included. In the cast will be Mr. Harry Welchman, Miss Désirée Ellinger, Miss Emma Haig, Mr. John Kirby, Mr. Lupino Lane, and Mr. Donald Mather.

Mr. James Pryde is to design the scenery and costumes for Mr. Maurice Browne's production of "Othello" in May.——"Art and Mrs. Bottle" finished its run at the Royalty last night.——"The Show's the Thing," with Miss Gracie Fields, will go on tour after it finishes at the Winter Garden on February 15.——"The Last Enemy" will reach its fiftieth performance at the Fortune to-morrow.——Sir Henry Wood and his Symphony Orchestra will be at the Coliseum for another week.

"Dinner is Served," a new farcical comedy, by Mr. Allan Mowbray, comes on at the Players Theatre on Friday.——Sir John Martin-Harvey will return to England from Canada on February 18.——"Dear Love" reaches its 100th performance at the Palace next Saturday. B.

Continued from next column.

—Herbert Willcox Productions, Ltd., v. First Nat. Pictures, Ltd. (pt. hd.) (232).

COURT VI. (WRIGHT, J.).—At 10.45: Commercial Summonses.—Not Attended by Counsel.—Vouvalis and Co., Ltd., v. Ellerman Lines, Ltd.; Dampskib Baltic v. W. W. North. Commercial List.—Drums, Ltd., v. Tyne Tees S.S. Co., Ltd. (pt. hd.) (662). Non-Jury.—Hall and anr. v. Joint Stock Development Trust, Ltd. (379).

CHAMBERS JUDGE.—CHARLES, J.

TO JURORS.—Special Jurors summoned for King's Bench Court VII. must attend in that Court at 10.15 to-morrow. Common Jurors summoned for King's Bench Court I. must attend in King's Bench Court IV. at 10 o'clock to-morrow. Common Jurors summoned for King's Bench Court II. need not attend until Tuesday.

Probate, Divorce and Admiralty Division.

COURT II. (The Pres.).—At 10.30: Div. Smns.—specially fixed.—Smns. Adjd. into Court.—Pink v. Pink and Rapson. Undef. Div. Causes.—Sheldon, R. E., v. Sheldon, N. L. (pt. hd.); Flahey v. Flahey and Kuhr (pt. hd.); Knowles, M., v. Knowles, C. W.; Newnham, F. A. M., v. Newnham, H. E.; Hatch v. Hatch and Stephens; Hammond, I. E., v. Hammond, W. C. W.; Popham, A. v. Popham, C. C.; Harrington v. Harrington and Stevens orse. Kondzialke; Bull v. Bull and Watson; Charrington, P., v. Charrington, R. E.; Knowles, R. McL., v. Knowles, A.; Pennington, S., v. Pennington, W.; Parker v. Parker and Street; Parsons v. Parsons and Lizarzaburu; Adams, C. J., v. Adams, G. C.; Hodgson, A. B. M., v. Hodgson, H. J.; Blagden, E. M., v. Blagden, S. G.; Rist, A. M., v. Rist, D. A. V.; Hitchcock K. E., v. Hitchcock, F. C.; Moore v. Moore and Owens; Hickling v. Hickling and Hudson; Honey, V. F., v. Honey, H. J.; Cox, F. E., v. Cox, S. Y.; Atkinson, E., v. Atkinson, J.; Tweedie, O. A. v. Tweedie, J. B.; Hobbs, I. B., v. Hobbs, E. W.; Preston v. Preston and Ely; Sinclair, M., v. Sinclair, W. B.

COURT I. (HILL, J.).—At 10.30: 25 Undef. Div. Causes.—At 2.15: Div. Smns.—specially fixed.

COURT III. (BATESON, J.).—At 10.30: Prob. and Div. Smnses.—Not before 12: Applications to make absolute the decrees nisi in 120 causes, including 49 proceeding in District Registries. Prob. Motions.—Cave, J. R., dec.; Savill, F. J., dec.; Cooper, P. W., dec.; Abecasis, V. E., dec.; Macharty, V., dec. Prob. Action.—Byrne and anr. v. Charlton and anr.

NOTICE.—All applications in Probate and Divorce Matters must be made to Mr. Justice BATESON at sitting of Court, or immediately after mid-day adjournment.

FILM NOTES.

ZEPPELIN RAIDS ON THE SCREEN.

By SYDNEY W. CARROLL.

A Hollywood film that reproduces faithfully all the dread apprehension and heroic calm inspired by the Zeppelin raids on London can now be found at the Tivoli under the title of "The Sky Hawk." We have had quite a plethora of aviation pictures of late, but I doubt if any one of them has cost its producers so much trouble and money as has this one. Based upon a story by Llewelyn Hughes, "A Chap Called Bardell," this moving drama of the night and air has been very ably directed by John G. Blystone, and equally well staged by Campbell Gullan, with the technical advisory aid of Captain Sterling Campbell of the Royal Flying Corps and Lieut. Peter Ginter, who served as a Zeppelin pilot and is said to have participated in two of the raids over London. The atmosphere arrived at is, in spite of the picture's origin, remarkably British. The story as told has a curious disconnected charm, and its principal effects are secured at night time in the sky with the searchlights flashing upon the doomed Zeppelin and the aeroplane circling around and over during the drama of destruction.

* * *

At the Avenue Pavilion, the little home of silent films in Shaftesbury Avenue, "He Who Gets Slapped" will be the big feature of this week's programme. This picture has been adapted from the well-known Russian play by Leonid Andreyev. As the cast comprises an extraordinary group of stars, including Lon Chaney, John Gilbert, and Norma Shearer, and the piece has been directed by no less a person than Victor Seastrom, it is well worth seeing as a really artistic production of the higher order.

* * *

The management of the Empire are anxious that it shall not be thought that "Hallelujah," its latest feature, has failed. It has been withdrawn after a run of two weeks, but during that time it has drawn audiences of about 17,500 a day—a very remarkable attendance. The current attraction is Marion Davies in her first all-talking picture, "Marianne." This is a war-time comedy of a distinctly quaint order, freely and easily told, in which Miss Davies exercises a broken French accent of a definitely theatrical brand. I thought her alleged imitation of Sarah Bernhardt very dreadful. I prefer the lady silent.

* * *

In "The Virginian," at the Plaza, we are provided with ample proof that the microphone can be as mobile as the camera. With its aid we hear the bellowing of a thousand head of cattle, the shouts of the cowboys driving the stampeding herd, and are taken through the wide open spaces of the Western cattle country. Gary Cooper, Mary Brian, Richard Arlen, and Walter Huston are the chief players, the first-named fitting the principal rôle to the life.

* * *

A great compliment has just been paid to a short non-fiction film. This is "The Thames, England's River." It has been running at the Plaza Theatre, Regent Street, and has been so enthusiastically received that the management have retained it for a second week. It consists of a really well-photographed travelogue of our beautiful river from its source to its mouth, and covers a diversity of scene and subject, both grave and gay.

* * *

Gaumont are shortly arranging a trade show for Mr. W. A. Darlington's all-talkie, "Alf's Button." I hear this is a very amusing and highly spectacular production, with songs and striking colour sequences, and a very strong star cast.

* * *

"Gold Diggers on Broadway," at the Regal, has now been provided with the additional novelty of presenting the final scenes of the film on a "big" screen. It has been found possible to make a projection on a screen measuring 36 ft. wide, as against a 20 ft. screen usually in use. The "Gold Diggers" are now in their seventh week.

TO-MORROW'S CAUSE LIST.

Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

FIRST DIVISION.—At 10.30: Appeal.—Campbell v. Hogg and ors.

SECOND DIVISION.—At 10.30: Appeals.—Sri Thakurji Maharaj and anr. v. Musammat Ram Dei; Mayasankar Bhagwanji v. Sachindra Mohan Ghosh, 2 Appeals (Consd.).

House of Lords.

NOTICE.—The following case will be taken on Tuesday at 10.30: Excelsior Wire Rope Co., Ltd., v. Callan and ors (hrg.).

Court of Appeal.

COURT I. (MASTER OF THE ROLLS, LAWRENCE and GREER, L.JJ.).—At 10.30: Appeal Motions—Expte.—From Chan. and Prob. and Div. Dvns. Appeals.—From Chan. Dvn. (Final List).—Re Kershaw: Kenyon v. Bird (3) (to be mentioned).—From King's Bench Dvn. (Revenue Paper —Final List).—Betts v. Laycock, Son and Co., Ltd. (1); Charles Brown and Co. v. Commrs. of Inland Revenue (3).

COURT II. (SCRUTTON, SLESSER, and ROMER, L.JJ.).—At 10.30: Appeal Motions—Expte.—From the K.B. and Admlty. Dvns.—Appeals.—Re Workmen's Compensation Acts. (From County Courts.)—Malcolm v. South Garesfield Colliery Co., Ltd. (3) (pt. hd.); Heworth Coal Co., Ltd., v. Barnes (8); Taylor v. Lock (6); Charlton v. The Union Castle Line (9); Mackie v. Cleveland Bridge and Engineering Co., Ltd. (10); Crouch v. the Appleby Iron Co., Ltd. (11).

NOTICE.—When workmen's Compensation Appeals are finished, this Court, sitting as a Divisional Court of the King's Bench Division, will proceed to hear Appeals in the Civil Paper.

Chancery Division.

COURT I. (EVE, J.).—At 11: Motion (by Order).—Morse v. Thomas. Witness List.—Part II.—Green v. Matthews (18) (action pt. hd.).

COURT III. (CLAUSON, J.).—At 10.30: Witness List.—Part I.—Simons v. Simons (9); Barclays Bank, Ltd., v. Evans (10).

NOTICE.—Judgment will be delivered on Tuesday at 3.15 in the following:—Cincinnati Grinders (Inc.) v. B.S.A. Tools (acn.).

COURT V. (MAUGHAM, J.).—At 10.50: In Court (as Chambers).—Summons.—Northwestern Farmers Dairies, Ltd. (1). In Court.—At 11: Petitions (Unopposed First).—Artandia, Ltd. (to wind up) (11); Ivy Linen Corporation, Ltd. (same) (96); Rural England Motor Coaches, Ltd. (same) (101); Harley the Tailor, Ltd. (same) (102); Gramophone Cabinets, Ltd. (same) (103); Boro Tin Mines, Ltd. (same) (106); Dennis, Ltd. (same) (107); Acton Recorder Co., Ltd. (same) (108); A. Eglington and Co., Ltd. (same) (109); British Talking Pictures, Ltd. (same) (110); Thomas Vause and Sons, Ltd. (to confirm reduction of capital) (49); Prodorite, Ltd. (same) (52).—Thompson Mckay and Co., Ltd. (same) (53); Atlantic Leased Lines, Ltd. (to confirm alteration of objects) (111); British Bank of South America, Ltd. (sec. 159) (59); Yorkshire Amalgamated Products, Ltd. (same) (60); Charles Morgan and Co., Ltd. (same) (62). Adjd. Smnses.—Bosch Magneto Co., Ltd. (applin. of A. Clausen) (15); W. R. Snow and Co., Ltd. (applin. of H. R. Bailey) (17).

COURT IV. (ALEXANDER, J.).—In Court (as Chambers).—At 10.30: Cambr. Smnses.—A to D.—Master JOSEPH CATTY.—With Counsel.—Re Briggs, dec. (Pritt v. Hailes); re Butcher's Will Trusts (Rayner v. Clark); re Guarnieri's Will Trusts (Macpherson v. Public Trustee); re Chandler's Will Trusts, re Law of Property Act, 1925; re Chabot's Will Trusts, re Trustee Act, 1925; re Casper, dec. (Casper v. Casper). Without Counsel.—Re Bartlett's Policy Trusts, re Married Women's Property Act, 1870. To follow A to D Dvn.—E to Z.—Master HOLLAM.—With Counsel.—Re Snell, dec., re Law of Property Act, 1925, and re Trustee Act, 1925; re Wren's Settled Estates and re Settled Land Act, 1925; re Taylor, dec. (Ruck v. Landeck). Without Counsel.—Salter and Sadler (1500). Ldd. v. Hulson; re Heathfield and Waldron Gas Light and Coke Co., Ltd. (Ashby v. The Company); re Haworth and Airey, Ltd., and re Companies Act, 1929. To follow S to Z Dvn.—L to R.—Master WAKEIN WILLIAMS.—With Counsel.—Re F. Robson, dec.; re William Lockwood's Will Trusts; re James Moore's Will Trusts.

COURT IV. (FARWELL, J.).—At 11: Witness List.—Part II.—Lister v. Thorp, Medley and Co. (acn. pt. hd.) (8).

LORD CHANCELLOR'S COURT (BENNETT, J.).—In Court (as Chambers).—At 11: Chmbr. Smnses.—A to D.—Master RIDSDALE.—With Counsel.—Re C. A. Vandervell and Co., Ltd., and re Companies Act, 1929. To follow A to D Dvn.—E to K.—Master KERR.—With Counsel.—Re May, dec. (Harlow v. May); re Evans, infants and re Trustee Act, 1925; re Hobbs' Settlement (Dempster v. Bundy); re Knowles' Will Trusts and re Kilsby, Infants. To follow E to K Dvn.—L to R.—Master H. W. JELF.—With Counsel.—Roper-Lumley-Holland v. Hanington; re E. Owen, dec. (Jones v. Phillips). Without Counsel.—Re J. Murray, dec. (Chiles v. McFarlane).

Court of Criminal Appeal.

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE'S COURT (TALBOT, CHARLES, and HUMPHREYS, JJ.).—At 10.30: Applications.—Rex v. James Achew (40); Rex v. Abey Albert Epstein (28); Rex v. John Rawlinson (36); Rex v. James Rogerson (24); Rex v. William Garbutt Wright (25); Rex v. Edward Tyler (30); Rex v. Victor Cullum (355); Rex v. Frank Leonard (33); Rex v. Henry Sheard (32); Rex v. Charles Ernest Cross (34); Rex v. Charles James Bennett (20); Rex v. Clarence Sherwood (6). Final Appeals.—Rex v. Albert Henry Weston (15); Rex v. Richard William Evens otherwise William Richard Evens (22); Rex v. Albert Edward Stenson (12); Rex v. Frederick Winterbottom (13).

King's Bench Division.

LORD CHIEF JUSTICE'S COURT (Divisional Court).—(TALBOT, CHARLES, and HUMPHREYS, JJ.).—At 10.30: Exparte Motions.

COURT VII. (HORRIDGE, J.).—At 10.30: Special Juries.—Gambles v. Lloyd (pt. hd.) (322); Ankin v. L. and N.E. Ry. (187).

NOTE.—All applications in Special Jury List for postponement of Cases should be made at Sitting of Court or at 1.20 p.m.

COURT IX. (ROWLATT, J.).—At 11: Non-Juries.—Greig v. Lennards (pt. hd.) (389); Barnard v. Gilbert (257); Howard v. Same (258).

NOTE.—All applications in Non-Jury List for postponement of Cases should be made at Sitting of Court or at 1.20 p.m.

COURT IV. (ACTON, J.).—At 10.30: Common Juries.—Russian Oil Products, Ltd., v. Tucker and Son (240); Noble v. Langham (190).

NOTE.—All applications in Common Jury List for postponement of Cases should be made at Sitting of Court or at 1.20 p.m.

COURT VIII. (MACKINNON J.).—At 10.30: Non-Jury.

Continued at foot of preceding column.

THEATRES.
Continued from page 14.

WIMBLEDON (5151). At 7.45. Mat., Thurs., 2.30. THE FIVE O'CLOCK GIRL. The HIPPODROME MUSICAL COMEDY Success. Actual West-End Production.

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THE WORLD OF MUSIC.

A MUSICAL NOVEL.

By ERNEST NEWMAN.

Those of my readers who understand German may be interested to hear of yet another musical novel, especially as this one has for its subject the present discontents in music. Its title is "Anasthase und das Untier Richard Wagner" ("Anasthase and the Monster Wagner"), and its author is Walter Seidel, a young Prague poet. I understand that this is Seidel's first attempt at a novel, which fact may excuse some of the crudities of his craftsmanship. As a novel, indeed, the performance does not amount to very much; easy as this easiest of all literary genres is, Seidel is far from being master of it. The interest of the book lies not so much in the story as a whole or in the separate incidents, some of which are of a quite extraordinary banality or naiveté, as in the author's insight into some of the musical questions of the day.

Seidel's central purpose is to set forth the opposition of two national cultures and two conceptions of music. His Anasthase is the son of a German mother and a French father; he directly owes his entry into the world to the emotion stirred in his father one evening by a hearing of the Debussy quartet. On the mother's side there is an old German uncle—a General—who is a fanatical propagandist of German culture as symbolised by Wagner; the old gentleman, indeed, is one of the contributors to the "Bayreuther Blätter," and it is difficult to conceive of anyone being more Wagnerian than that.

A CULT OF ATONISM.

The early influences surrounding Anasthase are bi-lingual and bi-cultural. His father is killed in the war, at the conclusion of which the mother and her young son leave the south of France and settle in Paris, where, of course, Anasthase is thrown into the flood of the most modern developments of music. He attracts the attention of a certain M. Bloume, one of the leading spirits in French finance and the chief proprietor of several newspapers. Like all serious business men, Seidel assures us, M. Bloume has a cultural hobby-horse: in his case it takes the curious form of atonal music. The pains of money-making, of having his ear glued to the telephone all day long, are made endurable to him only by the thought that in the evenings he can devote himself to the cult and the propaganda of the newest music. He comes upon Anasthase in a drawing-room in which is being performed a quintet for flute, 'cello, saxophone, contralto voice and rattle by a Russian composer who lives in Paris. Anasthase's animated remarks upon this work attract the attention of M. Bloume, who forthwith gives him an appointment, at a handsome salary, on one of his journals, "La Nouvelle Ere Musicale." That is how things happen in novels.

Anasthase now becomes a person of importance in the Parisian musical world; and he makes something of a stir at a festival of contemporary music at Frankfort. Beneath the surface, however, this energetic apostle of the newest music is anything but in harmony with himself. With the active, volitional side of his nature he despises Wagner, as every future-piercing young French musician feels it his duty to do. Subconsciously, however—perhaps owing to the German strain in him—he feels that Wagner expresses his deepest emotional life as no other composer can; and the remainder of the book is devoted to the story of the long struggle within him between his Parisian and modernistic environment, with its appeal to the cerebral and theoretic in him, and the inner life of sentiment that, fight against it as he will, keeps yearning towards Wagner.

AT A BAYREUTH FESTIVAL.

A visit to Munich and some conversations with his uncle make him contemptuously critical of the German mind. Then a chance meeting with a middle-aged German art historian, Saul Ring, who has the cultured layman's sensitiveness to music, leads to his attending a Bayreuth festival with his new friend. Saul Ring is the one really convincingly drawn character in the book: and the atmosphere of commercial humbug that seems to fill Bayreuth at Festival time, and the naive Philistinism of the singers, whom Anasthase overhears talking in a restaurant, are depicted with a biting realism to the truth of which every visitor to Bayreuth will do justice. Going into the theatre to have himself cured of his latent Wagnerism, as he hopes, he finds that the first two acts of "Tristan" bring him completely under the sway of the master. Lingering too long in one of the restaurants during the second interval, he finds himself shut out for the third act. He has a fellow-victim in the person of a young lady; and his sentimental education is completed that night by a passionate love affair with her. During that same night Saul Ring, also under the influence of "Tristan," commits suicide. These two episodes are managed by the author with a certain clumsiness of technique: the purpose of them is obvious, however—to stress the fatal dual motive of Love and Death that is so magnificently worked out in "Tristan." Anasthase is now a changed man. He can no longer do violence to his real nature, the German and Wagnerian side of him. His purely cerebral modernism falls from him like a skin that he has outgrown; and in the final pages of the novel we see him settled at Bayreuth, happy to spend his days showing visitors over the Wagner house.

THE MODERNIST'S STUMBLING BLOCK.

As I have hinted, the naïveté of the craftsmanship, and of some of the incidents, will provoke many a smile; but there is a good deal in the book that gets to the root of a situation with which we are all familiar. The great stumbling-block to the modernist is not Beethoven but Wagner. The modernist will either have to blot Wagner out of the general consciousness—which can be done only by creating a music that, while fundamentally opposite to his, shall be equally great and equally popular—or come to some kind of terms with him and all that he represents for ordinary musical humanity. The modernist hatred for Wagner and would-be contempt for him are based on the soundest of self-protective instincts. So long as he holds the place he does in the general estimation, an art that denies his validity in toto has no chance. For most plain music-lovers, Wagner covers the field so completely, and is so intimately one with them in all their feelings, that they cannot help judging living composers by him. And it is their consciousness that at every turn they are "up against" the giant that makes the modernists hate him so. Whatever they try to do, he seems to have done the same thing not only better but once for all. Do they attempt passion? They are up against "Tristan." Would they be jovial and genial? The "Meistersinger" is in their way. Would they be religious or philosophical? They invite comparisons with "Parsifal." Would they essay the epic? What is left to be done in that genre after the "Ring"? Their only chance of salvation is to declare that the things that Wagner and the nineteenth century did so well are not worth doing nowadays. And when they talk like that they remind us of the fable of the fox who had lost his tail.

Seidel is right: Wagner has a way of making people reckon with him whether they want to or not. Nietzsche discovered that, as M. Guy de Pourtalès reminds us in the fascinating "Nietzsche en Italie" that he has just published (Bernard Grasset, Paris). We all know how hard Nietzsche strove in his later years to persuade himself that Wagner's music was one of Nature's greatest mistakes. But when, in 1887, he heard the "Parsifal" prelude for the first and only time in his life (at Monte Carlo), he was so overwhelmed by it that the dictionary hardly sufficed to register his enthusiasm for it. Scratch more than one apparently hard-boiled modernist and you will find a half-ashamed Nietzsche underneath.

THE WEEK'S MUSIC.

"Das Lied von der Erde."

It is high time that so great a mind as Mahler's received something like due recognition in this country. The B.B.C. will shortly be giving us his colossal eighth symphony; but the average man may find that rather a tough proposition at a first hearing. The best road to approach to him is through his fourth symphony and the "Song of the Earth." This latter, which is his last and in some ways most perfect work, was given last Wednesday at the Courtald concert. The performance fell far short of the ideal. Not even Bruno Walter's inspired leadership could draw poetry and philosophy out of an orchestra (the L.S.O.) that necessarily had only a passing acquaintance with Mahler's mind in general and this mystical work in particular. Jacques Urlus, who essayed the tenor music, has so little voice left that he could not do much more than "fake" the majority of his phrases. Rosetta Anday did indeed bring a lovely voice and a sensitive style to bear upon the contralto part; but even she, excellent artist as she proved herself to be, left us with a sense of something unrealised in the final moments. That reiterated "Ewig," that sums up the whole sad philosophy of the great work, demands a more autumnal suggestion in the voice than Miss Anday's can command in the lower register. If a second singer, with a darker contralto timbre, could have been turned on for the last few pages, our cup of consolation would have been full.

In some of Mahler's earlier work we are puzzled by what looks like a paradox—an undoubtedly original mind expressing itself in an idiom that is not wholly its own. It is this occasionally excessive reliance on standardised formulæ that have done duty elsewhere in German romantic music, especially in Wagner's, that has led superficial listeners to dismiss Mahler with the contemptuous appellation of "eclectic." But to anyone who really knows his Mahler the basic individuality of the mind, even in the earlier works, is as apparent as the obvious fact that his formulæ are not always his own: while by the end of his short career he had managed to create an idiom wholly his own. The "Lied von der Erde" is as individual, both in matter and in manner, as anything that has come out of Germany since Wagner—and as expressive. There is less dross in Mahler than in Strauss; his superior artistic conscientiousness and his mystical exaltation save him from the banalities and the shoddinesses of the later Strauss, who has come badly through the spiritual trials that middle age imposes upon the soul of an artist. Mahler is the last *noble* mind in German music; his music is the infinitely moving twilight of romanticism, that seems to have said its last incomparable word in the final movement of the "Lied von der Erde." Nothing more poignant, more searching in its interfusion of beauty and philosophy, is to be found in the whole range of music since "Parsifal."

By Wireless.

For some reason or other, or combination of reasons, my wireless experiences lately have not been so happy as they used to be. There is frequent interference, and even when the transmission is on the whole good there are patches in which the essentials are obviously not there. I get Rome better than any other station, English or foreign; but it is no consolation to me, after having missed something vital in Elgar or Scriabine, to find that "Thais" is coming through from Rome with extraordinary clearness

It is generally unwise to judge a performance on the strength of a wireless transmission, for radio has a curious way of touching up the second-rate performances of artists and taking something from the first-class. How the Hungarian String Quartet may have sounded in the studio on Sunday I cannot say; but the first Kodaly quartet did not come through particularly well. It was an interesting experience, however, in view of the fact that Kodaly's chamber music is so rarely given in this country. The work, which is very early Kodaly, deserves to be better known, it is plainly immature, and its discursiveness goes against it, but the mind at the back of it is a fundamentally good one.

Scriabine's rarely heard first symphony was broadcast from a Liverpool Philharmonic concert, under Mr. Basil Cameron, on Tuesday, the sixth movement, however (with the voices) being omitted. As many of the lowest notes failed us, the harmonies were often left without audible means of support, and some of the wood wind came through in an attenuated form. The symphony, while in many ways tentative, is unmistakable Scriabine. The Chopin influence is less noticeable than it is in the early piano works: there are plentiful hints of Wagner in the chromaticism, and of Tchaikovski in the way of blending the three main sections of the orchestral colour.

Some parts of the Elgar programme (under Elgar himself) at the Royal Philharmonic concert on Thursday came through with life-like fidelity, while others could make no terms at all with the microphone. The noble passage descriptive of Roman might in the "In the South" overture, and passages of a similar texture in the first symphony, for example, were curiously thinned out. As a whole, however, the symphony was almost as impressive as it would have been in Queen's Hall. One's imagination could supply whatever was missing, while one's sense of the grandeur of the design of the work was helped by the freedom from the distractions of the concert room. Mr. Sammons' tone in the violin concerto was often thickened in the way the radio has with the violin, and generally I got the impression of force rather than subtlety in the reading. The section that suffered the most in transmission was the wonderful cadenza. The thrumming background to the violin was audible enough, but it was lacking in mystery.

Of the works given at the B.B.C. orchestral concert on Friday evening, under M. Ansermet, Honegger's "Rugby" and Stravinsky's "Nightingale" suite came over remarkably well by wireless. The "Rugby," like the game itself, is an exhilarating exhibition of energy from the neck downwards. The "Nightingale" necessarily suffered from the lack of the stage action upon which it was originally modelled: even a mimetic faculty so consummate as Stravinsky's cannot make its full effect when the average listener has no clue to what is being imitated. Yet in many ways it was interesting to hear the effects *in vacuo*, as it were,—to see the curious results of the union of a mentality that at bottom is of almost primitive simplicity with a modern orchestral technique of diabolical ingenuity.

E. N.

Italian Festival at Burlington House.

Not all happy ideas are so happily carried out as will be the Festival of Italian Music, if the remaining two soirées rival in achievement that given in the main gallery of Burlington House on Tuesday evening. Mr. Anthony Bernard had picked, between the fourteenth-century madrigal, by Francesco Landino, "El mio dolce sospir," and a rich group by Monteverde, who died in 1643, part-songs and a few instrumental pieces, mostly unfamiliar and all exhibiting standards of significance and æsthetic beauty that must have come as a revelation to any with but a nodding acquaintance with polyphonic music; his own string players of the London Chamber Orchestra, a group of solo voices and a small choir of selected singers performed them with great care for spirit and detail, scaling, not seldom, the heights of eloquence; Miss Nesta de Robeck was there to give some interesting facts; Professor Edward J. Dent had contributed a masterly foreword, opening the mind in relation to these musical pendants to the Italian pictures; and last, but not least, the august salon, bearing on its walls some of the priceless treasures of the exhibition, proved resonant to a degree.

The Villanella, "O la, o che buon eco," by Orlando di Lasso, with a small choir for the echo in an adjoining gallery, Bendusi's "Speranza" for strings, Marenzio's "L'aura che'l verde lauro e l'aureo crine," Palestrina's "Laudate Dominum" (surely there should have been more than this one example of church music) and that surprising first scene of the first act of Orazio Vecchi's "commedia harmonica," "L'Amfiparnaso," a kind of dramatic madrigal: any of these and many another might give text for a full-length article. Since the matter must be dismissed in a couple of paragraphs, let it be said that the impression was of a luscious grace hardly touched by the madrigalists of our own Golden

Continued at foot of column 5.

THE GALLERIES.

THE PRELUDE TO ITALIAN ART.

WAR AND PAINT.

By FRANK RUTTER.

NAPLES.

More and more as research unveils the past we are made aware that there is no beginning—as there is certainly no end—to what is known as Modern Art. More and more, too, as scholars search archives and archæologists excavate, bringing to light facts that had been lost sight of for ages, we find that our forefathers were not so wrong as we thought they were, but often hit on something very near the truth, despite their lack of evidence that we possess.

Just old enough to have seen Ruskin in my childhood, I can remember the fine scorn his zealous disciples poured on those eighteenth-century writers who described Fra Angelico and his contemporaries as "Gothic painters." Yet is not expert opinion to-day more and more coming round to the opinion that somewhere about 1420 there is a line of cleavage in Italian painting? And if those on the nearer side can be accepted as artists of the early Renaissance, are not those on the further more properly described as Gothic artists?

Already the Burlington House exhibition has taught the public that the legendary pioneer-figure of Cimabue was preceded by the still earlier painter, Giunta Pisano (*fl.* 1229-1255), and as soon as our art students realise that he was not a solitary, but one of a crowd, some of the most go-ahead will surely set about founding a Pre-Giottesque Brotherhood

So, too, our art-historians are being forced to recognise that the date on which mediæval painting pivots is not the fall of Constantinople in 1453, as was formerly argued, but the fall of Constantinople in 1203. This temporary conquest by the Latin Crusaders brought the civilisations of the East and West into close contact—painfully close for the Greeks—and the havoc wrought in the Eastern Empire by these avaricious freebooters had a consequence of high importance to European art.

THE MOTHER OF INVENTION.

Prior to 1203 the wealthy capital, for seven centuries and more, had been in the habit of using splendid and costly mosaic for all important schemes of decoration. Reduced to poverty by the depredation of the Latins, Constantinople could no longer afford the expense of mosaics, and turned to a cheaper medium, paint. This is the true cause and origin of the Revival of Painting, a victory—if you can call it a victory—of War and not of Peace.

This forced abandonment of mosaic was the prelude, not only to the Italian revival, but equally to the rise of the early fourteenth century Macedonian School of Painting, whose surviving works on Mount Athos have been sought out recently by Mr. Robert Byron, and by him so fruitfully compared with the paintings of El Greco.* As Rome occupied Athens, so the mediæval Italians—as far as their culture permitted—copied Constantinople. What the Greek artists did, the Italian artists did also, eventually rather differently.

It has been argued that the change of medium from mosaic to paint brought about a freer treatment of the human form and prepared the way for naturalism. The argument is plausible, but not completely satisfying, because a good artist is not mastered by his medium, but masters it, and compels it to do pretty much what he desires.

Here, in the Naples Museum, is that wonderful relic of classical mosaic, "The Battle of Issus." The medium is the same as that of the Justinian and Theodora mosaics in Ravenna, but how utterly different it is in style and expression. Free or not free, the naturalism of the "Issus" is far greater than that of thirteenth century Italian paintings

Must we believe that it was impossible for *any* Byzantine artist to approach the purity and precision of drawing in this masterpiece by an unknown Greek artist? The fourth century mosaic in the apse of S. Pudenziana, Rome—with its gentle naturalism—suffices to reveal how shallow is this argument.

There is another explanation. Art, when it *is* art and not mere cookery, is liable to be affected far more by a change of thought than by a change of material. The coming of the Iconoclasts in the eighth century cast their shadows before them on Byzantine art. Before images were broken a strong feeling had been coming in, like a tide from the East, that it was sacrilegious and unseemly to present divine and spiritual forms in terms of materialism. The contemporaneous movement in Arabia, triumphing in all Mohammedan lands save Persia, left its permanent impression on Mussulman art.

In the Greek Empire the iconoclastic victory was of short duration. A compromise was soon arrived at, and a hieratic style evolved in which bodies could be used as decorative symbols, but the illusion of actual appearances was sternly discouraged.

PAGAN ITALY.

In Italy, ever sub-consciously true to its classical tradition, the Iconoclasts had no welcome, and met with nothing but the fiercest opposition. So far as the Italian artists departed from naturalism, they did so, not from religious conviction, but merely because they aped a foreign fashion, that of Byzantium, for many centuries the headquarters of culture in Europe. Anybody who has noticed how certain English painters copy Paris styles will understand why mediæval Italian painters abandoned their national tradition to chase a mirage of mental superiority.

Italy—even to-day more pagan at heart than, let us say, Russia before the Revolution—had nothing to bind her to the orthodoxy of Byzantine painting. As the authority of Constantinople weakened and waned, politically and culturally, when it fell and no Christian could take his fashions from the Turk, then Italy found herself again and recaptured the realistic traditions of Rome. Who knows? Had Paris fallen in 1915 members of the London Group might now be worshipping in Norwich instead of Montparnasse.

That translation of the Byzantine style into Nordic line which is known as Gothic art lingered on in northern Europe, even for a time in northern Italy. But as the devotional element in painting weakened and decayed, as men became more material, less concerned with spiritual affairs, and more apt up in terrestrial discoveries and inventions, so the language of painting changed. The Renaissance set out to present facts rather than to express spiritual emotions. The occupation of the Gothic painters was gone; one by one they disappeared. Botticelli, the last Gothic artist, sang his exquisite swan-song—and Gothic painting was no more.

CLASSICAL MOSAICS.

That mosaic as a medium is capable of being used to secure an amazingly realistic effect is proved not only by the famous "Battle of Issus," but still more by two portrait heads from Pompeii, also in the Naples Museum. These heads of women—described, probably erroneously, as portraying "Sappho"—are now held to be of Etruscan workmanship, and to date from the fifth century B.C., an attribution which is strengthened by comparison with the Etruscan mosaics at Volterra and Cortona. In their strength and astonishing delicacy of modelling these heads in mosaics are as tersely realistic as a portrait by Derain, and they belong to the same tradition as the Greco-Roman mummy-portraits from Alexandria in the National Gallery.

Rather more suave in style, but again quite naturalistic, is the charming circular fresco, the ideal head of "Sappho"—with a book in her left hand and a stylus raised to her lip—which was also found at Pompeii, and is considered by experts to be not later than the second century B.C. Most of the wall paintings left at Pompeii cannot justly be ranked higher as art than a good wall paper of the nineteenth or twentieth century; but the finer examples in the Naples Museum leave us in no doubt that style in art, whether conventional or realistic, is not dictated by a medium, or even by an historical period, but is essentially the logical result of a certain mode of thought.

* Byron Robert. "Greco: The Epilogue to Byzantine Culture."—*The Burlington Magazine*, October, 1929.

IRISH FREE STATE

NATIVE ARCHÆOLOGY.

A PREHISTORIC CEMETERY.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

DUBLIN, Saturday.

The recent discovery of a prehistoric cemetery in County Meath has given a welcome revival to interest in our native archæology. The discovery was made by a farmer during quarrying operations. Happily, he was a man of understanding, and he called to his aid the keeper of Irish antiquities at the National Museum. The result has been a skilled and systematic examination of the find, which has yielded a number of skeletons, food vessels, and funereal urns. One of these last is a magnificent specimen of encrusted Keramic decoration, and is of special interest because of its resemblance to the North Italian buckets of the Bronze Age. Examples both of cremation and inhumation were found, and in one case a skeleton in a crouched position facing the rising sun was lying on an elaborate slab pavement. This is a discovery of special interest, as the ground flag or pavement is usually to be found only in association with cremations. Some years ago a great variety of urns were found in a hill cemetery at Balton Hill, in County Carlow, and presented to the museum by General Lecky.

Now, this recent addition, together with the better known gold ornaments, bronze spear-heads and implements, proves that Ireland was culturally advanced during the later Bronze Age. The finds have for the most part been made along what is known as the Esker bank of sand deposited by the Glacial Age which runs across the country, and, being denuded of trees and vegetation, was suitable for primitive settlement. In stone monoliths Ireland has much in common with the alignments at Carnac in Brittany, and the still richer survivals in the Iberian Peninsula.

NEGLECTED MUSEUMS.

Last season an Act was passed to protect our ancient monuments, which have suffered sadly from vandalism in the past. In future, finds must be reported; it is now an offence to deface or remove ancient remains, and objects of archæological value cannot be exported without license. It is a pity that the same regard is not being shown for our Museum collections. Our National Museum owes its inception to the voluntary enterprise of the Royal Dublin Society and the Royal Irish Academy. It only became a State Institution about 1880, and many of the most valuable exhibits—notably gold ornaments—are still held on loan from the Academy. Both these benefactory bodies are represented on the Board of Visitors, and in its last report this Board comments on the failure to fill many vacancies on the staff, on the thousands of specimens unregistered and unclassified, on the deplorable condition of decay and neglect of certain geological specimens. Money is said to be the difficulty, and yet we propose to vote £3,000 to relieve individual guarantors for motor races of their liability. This seems inconsistent with our love of culture and our pride in the glories of the past.

GENERAL ELECTION PROSPECTS.

The legal life of the present Government ends in 1932, but it is hardly likely that the election will be deferred till then, except to turn to account the enthusiasm that the Eucharistic Congress, which is to be held that year, may excite. The general feeling is that an election will take place next year. The present Government has been in office since 1927, and it has shown surprising stability on such a small majority, being, with the aid of minority groups, only six more than the combined strength of Labour or Fianna Fail. It has been kept in office by the good sense of the independents and by means of an accommodation with the remnant of the farmers' party—which latter is now shattered by internal dissension. One must look from now on for a popular budget and for measures of electioneering value, one of which, that to deal with ground rents and tenants, is already overdue.

It would be pure guesswork to forecast the result. There must be the inevitable swing of the pendulum. None of the Party organisations are strong, and those of Labour and the farmers are especially weak. That of Fianna Fail probably possesses the greater enthusiasm born of eagerness for office and the zeal of inexperience. On reasoned merits Cumman na Gaedheal, the present Government party, holds all the cards. Whatever it may do it is sure of the support of the voting Anglo-Irish minority, and it has already possessed itself of most of the constructive items of the Republicans, such as compulsory Irish and economic isolation. If, as has been stated in the House of Commons by the President of the Board of Trade, it has agreed to a tariff truce, this will be worked for all it is worth by Fianna Fail. Apart from general condemnation, Mr. de Valera's main planks are the withholding of annuities and full-blooded Protection. The people are suspicious of him and his party, but experience alone can say if the majority, who have little at stake, can resist these temptations.

FINANCE THE DETERMINING FACTOR.

In the long run party finance will probably be the determining factor. Speaking generally, Mr. de Valera relies on the servant girls of America while Mr. Cosgrave receives indispensable support from the business interests at home. Neither party seems to possess adequate money reserves, and hurried last moment efforts on both sides may be expected. Business interests, if only out of self-interest, will probably respond. The American servant girls are less certain, more especially as a special drive has recently been made by Mr. de Valera for funds for his party newspaper, which has been on the stocks for a long time. In any case it will be a critical election. If Mr. de Valera gets in, his majority will probably be small. Sooner or later he must face the responsibility of office; perhaps the sooner the better, for in no other way can his party acquire that constructive sense which hitherto it has sadly lacked.

Continued from column 3.

Age. Themselves schooled by such masterpieces of the Renaissance, they were every whit as fertile in ideas, yet mingled a salty tang—as of the sea—with their expression. The honeyed quality was doubtless enhanced by the roundness of our present mode of voice-production: almost certainly, the contemporary Italian voices would have sounded more nasal.

Sir H. J. Wood's Band at the Coliseum.

They are miniature "Prom." programmes that Sir Henry J. Wood and his orchestra are giving at the Coliseum, and if a performance heard on Wednesday offers any criterion, the discipline of the organisation has never stood higher than to-day. About the "Sinfonia" to Part III. of Handel's "Solomon" there seemed to lurk a certain stolidity, but vitality and delicacy of the finest came tripping out in the "Rosamunde" ballet music (Schubert), the Scherzo from "A Midsummer Night's Dream" (Mendelssohn), and the inevitable Boccherini minuet. It was permissible to remark the reaction of a "variety" audience to what some have considered a curious experiment. One had thought that perhaps some massive City fathers would stir in their seats and elect to remove their massive cigars to the lounge for this half-hour; on the contrary, no one moved, and you could have heard a pin fall. And the work that evoked the deepest note, especially from "the gods," among applause always thunderous, was—will you guess? Dame Ethel Smyth's overture to "The Bosun's Mate."

Recital Notes.

Miss May Harrison produced a Bach programme, with particular interests, for her violin recital of Monday at Wigmore Hall. The Concerto in C minor, well known in the version for two claviers, supposed to be an adaptation of a lost one for two violins, was now played by herself and the distinguished oboist, Leon Goossens, with Mr. Gerald Moore (piano) continuo, and strings. Their art made the unfamiliar medium effective as well as interesting. Then, what was claimed to be an early form of the sixth Sonata for clavier and violin, hitherto unheard here, revealed its qualities, most intense in the central cantabile movement.

H. F.

OUR PARIS LETTER

KICKING OVER THE TRACES.

AN UNPOPULAR LAW.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

PARIS, Saturday.

The public have recently shown a disposition to rebel against their masters, whether local or national. They vigorously protested against certain decisions of the Paris Municipal Council, notably that concerning the increase of omnibus and tramcar fares, and the city fathers were forced to yield. They are now objecting to the State Insurance Act, which should have come into operation this month. Little did M. Loucheur, who as Minister of Labour is the father of this measure, and the Chamber which accepted it, dream that after it was carefully studied by the public it would raise such a violent outburst of opposition. There was trouble when an Act of a similar nature was passed in England, but the protests were really feeble compared with the ebullitions of disapproval that can now be witnessed in France.

So effective and destructive has been the criticism directed against the insurance law that it has had to be overhauled in keeping with the objections raised. Poor M. Loucheur, a hard-working and well-meaning Minister, has been staggered by the volume of criticism, and it is no secret that he hurried back to Paris from London in the hope of being able to stem the surging tide of unpopularity which is overwhelming his insurance ship. M. Tardieu, the Premier, is a little alarmed, and at the meeting of Ministers to-morrow he will take this matter in hand.

By the insurance law all workers earning less than 15,000 francs, or £120, a year must be compulsorily insured against sickness. They will pay something like 4 per cent. of their wages, their employers contributing a similar sum. Now many employers and employed are protesting against this new charge. The country generally is uneasy about the law, for the reason that, although it cannot really be applied before four or even six months, the cost of living is going up on account of it. Already a number of manufacturers, shopkeepers, and intermediaries have put up their prices from 10 to 20 per cent. Prices were already mounting without the insurance law being seized upon as another pretext. M. Tardieu will be asked to put an end to this state of things, and he may be expected to do so, otherwise there will be further kicking over the traces.

SOCIALIST AMBITIONS.

The French Socialists have developed a spirit of envy since their British brethren assumed power. They argue that if a monarchical country like England can put the Socialists in charge of the nation's destinies, why should not republican France follow its example? And so they are more than ever determined to have done with bourgeois Governments and to instal themselves as masters. But, as their recent congress showed, they are not all of one mind as to how the aim they have in view can be achieved. They are, in fact, a divided host.

The cautious and less intransigeant element of the party would, first of all, like to participate in a Government with the composition of which they agree—a Government formed by the Radicals and Radical Socialists who, in spite of their unhappy experience of power in the past, keep up an everlasting intrigue against those Ministries which seek to legislate in accordance with the country's needs as distinct from purely political doctrines. But a majority of the party, though not of the Socialist deputies sitting in the Chamber, have decided against participation, and desire to form an exclusively Socialist Government. The pretension is a daring one, not only from the point of view of the party's numerical strength in the Chamber, but from the standpoint of its position in the country.

There are only ninety-nine Socialists in the Chamber, and it is claimed that of these seventy-one are in favour of participation. It therefore looks as if the day is far distant when a fundamentally conservative country like France, with its traditions of individualism, its large army of small capitalists ever seeking to increase their personal stake in the country, will elect the Socialists to place and power.

THEATRE CRISIS.

Though M. Chéron, the Minister of Finance, promised the theatrical managers, whom he received this week, substantial concessions, it is yet too early to say definitely whether the threatened strike at all the places of amusement in France will be called off. As has been related, the directors of theatres, music-halls, concerts, cinemas, circuses, and cabarets protest particularly against two heavy taxes—the State, or war, tax and that known as the "droits des pauvres," which has existed for nearly 140 years and is borne by the amusement world alone. Very naturally the promoters of entertainments consider that their industry should not be the only one to find the money necessary for the support of the poor.

The promise has been given to reduce the State tax by something like 30,000,000 francs and the poor tax by 2½ per cent. And in the meantime a commission has been appointed, under the chairmanship of M. André Poncet, the Minister of Fine Arts, a resourceful administrator who has made his mark since he became connected with the Government, to study the collection of the "droits des pauvres." We shall have to wait until the findings of this commission are made known before it can be said that the danger of 300,000 people associated with the places of amusement coming out on strike has been averted.

It is significant that all the houses of entertainment in France have formed themselves into a national federation. They are not fully satisfied with the concessions granted by the Minister of Finance, and it is expected that they will make known their decision at their special congress at Nice which will come to an end on February 3.

RUSSIAN EXILES.

The sensation of the week, the disappearance and, as is now generally believed, the kidnapping of General Koutepoff, has drawn attention to the large number of Russians who have taken refuge in France. They support at least two daily newspapers, not to speak of weekly sheets in Paris, and a Russian journalist assures me that the number of his compatriots who have fled from Soviet rule to France can be put at 150,000. While they have become absorbed in the industrial, commercial, and toiling life of the capital, they have retained their national manners and customs. It would be difficult to indicate precisely the number of Russian restaurants in Paris. Some are exclusively Russian, as was borne in upon me this week when I entered one in a populous quarter of the city and was made to feel that I was a stranger, an intruder, if not a secret agent.

Russian dishes, including the famous cream soup, are prepared in these places. Taxicab drivers who were nobles before the Soviet revolution and officers in the Tsar's army, and grey-headed men in black who are either living modestly on what they have saved from their lost fortunes, or have obtained employment in banks, offices, or small industrial enterprises, are among the customers. They retain their taste for vodka, the Russian *eau de vie*, which they drink before eating.

It can be imagined that the large Russian population in Paris occupies the attention of the French section of the Cheka, or secret police, which, as M. Bessedovsky, the former Charge d'Affaires, who escaped in dramatic circumstances from the Soviet Embassy, has stated has large sums at its disposal. The exiled Russians are labelled "whites," or counter-revolutionaries, by the secret agents, and hence their leaders are closely watched and shadowed.

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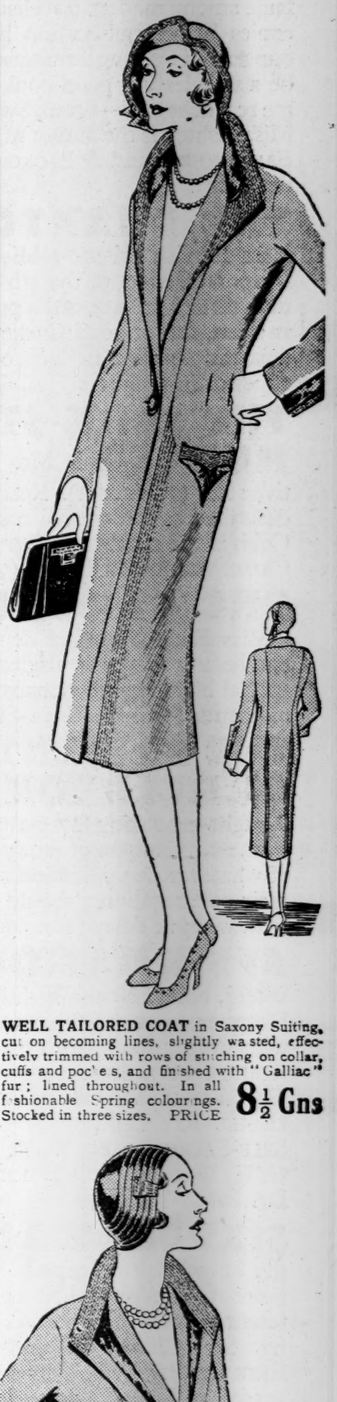

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THE WORLD OF BOOKS.

TROLLOPE.

"The Barsetshire Novels" of Anthony Trollope. Edited by Michael Sadleir. (Shakespeare Head Press. 14 volumes. £8 15s.)

By DESMOND MacCARTHY.

This library edition of the Barchester Novels is in every way a desirable one. It is edited by Mr. Michael Sadleir, who has done much to bring before his own generation the merits of Trollope. I have only one small criticism to make. It would have been useful to most possessors of this edition if the order in which the novels were written had been indicated. Most people know that Trollope opened the series with "The Warden" and continued it with "Barchester Towers," but after that their notions of chronology are apt to be confused. They do not all know that "Doctor Thorne" preceded "Framley Parsonage," or that "The Small House at Allington" follows next and precedes "The Last Chronicles of Barset." Since the characters who run through the series grow old together and change in relation to each other, first one group figuring in the foreground and then another, it is a help towards appreciating completely the coherence of Trollope's imaginary world to read these novels in the order in which they were written.

Mr. Sadleir, in his excellent preface, tries to distinguish Trollope's achievement from the work of "regional" novelists. He quotes Hawthorne's famous impression that it was "as if some giant had hewn a great lump out of the earth and put it under a glass case, with all its inhabitants going about their daily business and not suspecting that they were being made a show of." The distinction, however, to my mind is not a clear one, since it leads him to the conclusion that "Hardy and Balzac" alone remain to share with Trollope "the rank of world-creating novelists." The phrase "world-creating," like most words in our critical vocabulary, is vague. In a sense most novelists of the first order create "a world." The peculiarity of Trollope's novels is that the same characters often recur in them, and that in the Barchester group all the events take place in an imagined county, of which both the topography and the social and professional hierarchies are solidly and consistently imagined. We know Barset as well as a county we have lived in all our lives.

A Social Chronicler.

In Hardy's novels characters do not recur, or only minor ones, and although the topography of his "Wessex" is consistent, we are far from getting a bird's-eye view of all the different sorts of people and of their avocations which go to make up the life of a county. Hardy's notions of the inhabitants of the great houses are, for instance, exceedingly dim and queer, nor is there any close understanding in his Wessex novels of either the sporting, legal, political, or clerical "worlds." Hardy's merits are of a very different kind. Hardy is a poet-novelist, not a social chronicler like Trollope. In the latter respect, however, there is a resemblance between Trollope and Balzac; though, as far as I know, there is no evidence that Trollope ever took a hint from the *Comédie Humaine*, or even read Balzac. (By the by, how he would have disliked him!) The panoramic view of society and the device of reintroducing the same characters at different ages and in different connections were apparently Trollope's own inventions. Those characteristics, like everything else about his work, his straightforward, insensitive style, his warm-hearted championing of particular characters, his good-natured common-sense, his playful if sometimes slightly tiresome asides, were genuine products of his nature. Trollope was, in one sense of the word, exceptionally "original"; though of all novelists he was also, perhaps, the most average-minded. And that is his charm. Every detail he put into his picture of life was his own discovery, and they tallied exactly with the experiences of normal, sensible, but not deeply inquiring people.

Henry James has put this very well:—

> His great, his inestimable merit was a complete appreciation of the usual. Trollope, therefore, with his eyes comfortably fixed on the familiar, the actual, was far from having invented a new category; his distinction is that in resting just there his vision took in so much of the field. And then he *felt* all daily and immediate things as well as saw them; felt them in a simple, direct, salubrious way, with their sadness, their gladness, their charm, their comicality, all their obvious and measurable meanings.

A Modest Claim.

Mr. Sadleir, in his preface, adds to this, and only an admirer has a right to add it, an important gloss: "As soon as one proceeds beyond the achievement of creation to a comparison of the thing created, the limitations of Trollope are immediately manifest; and since no one was more aware of these limitations or less ashamed of them than Trollope himself, their avowal becomes a duty on the critic of his work, and their very existence almost a feature of its excellence." The last sentence, "and their very existence almost a feature of its excellence," is a good piece of criticism. Like all sensible men who are writers, Trollope was, if anything, over modest. "I do not think it probable," he wrote, "that my name will remain among those who in the next century will be known as the writers of English prose fiction." I can imagine Defoe making the same comment on his own work.

Trollope was well aware that as a literary artist he was inferior to Thackeray, and that in genius he was immensely inferior to Dickens. He preferred to be on the safe side; to make no claims at all to be anything more than a professional entertainer whose entertainments nourished good sense and good morals. Though that he was more sane and truthful in his outlook on life than either of those two contemporaries who outstripped him, he would, if challenged, have vehemently claimed. His autobiography, which is also reprinted in this library edition, had such a depressing effect on his reputation that his own estimate of the verdict of posterity looked as though it might be fulfilled. Moreover, the 'eighties in England saw the beginnings of the æsthetic movement in fiction, and the dawning of genius-worship—a maleficent thing, often bad for the genius and always bad for the public.

Trollope's Time-table.

The reason this Autobiography did his reputation so much harm was that it revealed his honest preoccupation with money-making and the fact that he wrote so many pages every week of his life.

> According to the circumstances of the time—whether my other business might be then heavy or light, or whether the book which I was writing was or was not wanted with speed—I have allotted myself so many pages a week. The average number has been about forty. It has been placed as low as twenty and has risen to 112. And as a page is an ambiguous term, my page has been made to contain 250 words; and as words, if not watched, will have a tendency to straggle, I have had every word counted as I went. In the bargains I have made with publishers I have—not, of course, with their knowledge, but in my own mind—undertaken always to supply them with so many words, and I have never put a book out of hand short of the number by a single word. I may also say that the excess has been very small. I have prided myself especially in completing it within the proposed dimensions. But I have prided myself especially in completing it within the proposed time. ... I have been told that such appliances are beneath the notice of a man of genius. I have never fancied myself to be a man of genius, but had I been so, I think I might well have subjected myself to these trammels.

It was passages of this sort which struck the readers of the Autobiography, and made them think of Trollope as merely an able hack-writer. "There are those who would be ashamed to subject themselves to such a taskmaster," he goes on, "and who think that the man who works into his imagination should allow himself to wait till inspiration moves him. When I have heard such a doctrine preached, I have hardly been able to repress my scorn. To me it would not be more absurd if the shoemaker were to wait for inspiration, or the tallow-chandler for the divine moment of melting."

Living With His Characters.

Ah, said the critics when they read this, so Trollope was only a tradesman of letters. They overlooked the autobiographic passages in which he insists on the vital importance for a novelist of living in company with imaginary characters if they are to be real to the imagination of others. "I have wandered alone," he says, on another page, "among rocks and woods, crying at their grief, laughing at their absurdities, and thoroughly enjoying their joy. I have been impregnated with my own creations till it has been my only excitement to sit with the pen in my hand, and drive my team before me at as quick a pace as I could make them travel." This is the heart of the matter. He feels with his characters; he believes in them so completely that we believe in them too. His extraordinary faculty of concentration he seems to have inherited from his mother, who, beginning at the age of 50, poured out up to 1856, when she was 76 and took seven years' rest, 114 volumes. Some of her best stories were written while she was nursing her bankrupt husband during his last illness and two children dying of consumption, alone in a big house outside Bruges.

Trollope's Style.

Trollope's English is undistinguished. It always conveys his meaning clearly, which some consider not only the beginning but the end of style; but Trollope's style never reflects sensitiveness to beauty. There are no overtones in it. In itself it never thrills or amuses. It is untouched by æsthetic curiosity, and no words he uses ever put the reader into relation with a view of life wider or profounder than that of current morality and common sense. But is not that enough in all conscience, when it is so thoroughly done? And does not such a customary horizon seem boundless compared with those stuffy æsthetic or psychological dog-hutches in which novelists sometimes confine us? Though there are also larger, finer, and more interesting worlds than the one in which Trollope moves, this, however, can be claimed for him: within his own world no novelist was ever a surer guide. I know no one to whom, once I am embarked on his story, I yield myself up with more restful confidence that I shall agree with his values, or in whom I put more trust that what he is going to tell me happened next, would, in reality, have happened. Indeed, he knows so well what his characters will do and say that, most inartistically, he will sometimes interrupt the illusion, and proceed to tease his reader by suggesting that he might, if he liked, make them do or say something else.

He can afford this. I know no other novelists, except Jane Austen or Tolstoy, who have a sufficiently complete grasp of their characters and circumstances to take similar abominable liberties with impunity. As a matter of fact, although he never pretends to be doing anything more than spinning a story—his view of the novelist's craft being merely that it is one of the more refined professions—he never juggles with the reader's sympathy and credulity. All is solid and serious. He relies as little on mystification and the unusual as "our Jane," and as little on holding the reader by adventitious ornament as Defoe. His work lives because his characters stand so firmly on their feet and because his own interest in them was so genuine, warm-hearted and shrewd.

The Art of Story-telling.

Mr. Sadleir in his preface claims for him mastery in the art of telling a story. This is justified, except in such books as "Can You Forgive Her?" when a double story is interlinked merely with a view to periodic publication. Periodic publication injured the work of many of the best Victorian novelists. They wrote with an eye to curtains and a month's interval between the parts. "I like a book," says one of Trollope's heroines (I am quoting her words from Professor Elton's commentary on Trollope), "to be as clear as running water, so that the whole meaning may be clear at once." His stories always had clarity, but not the swiftness suggested by that metaphor. They are always leisurely, sometimes too leisurely. They are held together by the author's moral preoccupation; and there is no doubt that preoccupation with good and evil is the stoutest backbone for any story but an adventure story. The main interest of a novel which offers us a picture of familiar life must be a moral one. The detached psychologic novelist may draw attention to new facts in human nature, but once the novelty of them has passed, our interest in them will depend on the value we attach to them—their moral significance. Vivid transcriptions of sensations or records of moments in the stream of consciousness delight us in passing, but unless a novelist has also a requisite degree of moral interest in the characters who experience them, his work as a whole will seem trivial. Is this man or woman on the whole good or bad? Will he or she, behave well or badly when the pinch comes? Was he or she beautiful or ignoble at such and such a juncture? There is no other steady source of interest which the novel can supply comparable to answering these questions; and the story or plot of a novel is admirable in so far as it posits them in an interesting or searching way, and supplies the reader with ample matter for forming his own opinion. Trollope always answered them in his stories in a sensible and honest manner.

LADY FRANCES BALFOUR'S CLAYMORE.

"Ne Obliviscaris: Dinna Forget." By Lady Frances Balfour. (Hodder and Stoughton. 2 vols. 42s.)

Reviewed by J. M. BULLOCH.

In describing a family discussion at Hatfield about King Edward's accession Declaration, Lady Frances Balfour wrote to Professor Saintsbury: "I have had my claymore dripping with gore from the first to the last." That claymore, of which, as a MacCallum More in petticoats, she is intensely proud, drips with gore from the first to the last of the nine hundred odd pages of the very characteristic autobiography which she has called by the Argyll motto "Ne Obliviscaris." But, as legs and arms and heads are "sned like taps o' thrissle under her vigorous swish, as Burns said in addressing the haggis, her book, which somewhat resembles that mis-under-tood dish in its rather rambling arrangement, does not seem too long.

In her girlhood her "character was indubitably pugnacious." Long after, when she was staying at Cyril Flower's—"a sungod with his boisterous happiness"—she was called "The Coming Squall." She stresses the "old Adam" in her, and speaks of "my black books"—in which Lord Curzon was enrolled for his anti-feminism; while at the time of her marriage she was "defensively Scottish." Once again she calls herself "an unadorned, unrestrained and thoroughly illogical Celt." But, with all her claymore swinging, there is no scandal as in many best-selling memoirs, for she declines to lay her friends "on their own dining-room tables and dissect them," caustic though she be, and she has "no wish to be associated with the scum of any Society."

Modern Manners.

Her plangent challenge to her time begins at once in her contrast of the manners and society of her youth with those of to-day. Recalling how Louisa Duchess of Northumberland used to wear lavender kid gloves in the house, she pillories the modern girl's "strangulated loin cloths and light coloured stockings, not to speak of the tottering pegs called shoes," and the "modern female helmets":—

> Society was narrow and exclusive looked at from one aspect but it put a value on itself and its position in the world. It recognised its responsibilities and served them to the best of its abilities. ...
>
> People were not liable to the call of the telephone announcing the invasion of one or two carfulls of other people's guests who descended like a cage of screaming macaws let loose for the day.
>
> The dead level of mediocrity is all round us. All we like sheep go astray in faithfully copying what the multitude does or does not do. No one has singular gifts, and no one aspires to individuality.

Her Marriage.

There certainly has been no lack of individuality in Lady Frances, not least in her marriage—the Whig daughter of the Whiggiest sire—into the Tory Balfours, "the epitome of the Lowland Scot and of his success in the world." With none of the Balfours, she says, were politics a matter of vital interest. "None of them had that exclusive and inclusive interest in statecraft that marked the great Whig families." No wonder her father once wrote to her: "What a blister you must just now be in the Balfour family—enough to cause a cutaneous eruption all over." There were friendly retaliations, for Lord Balfour wrote to her in 1887: "Your father is a most inconvenient colleague." But they all agreed to differ, and she immensely admired her husband, Eustace Balfour, not least for his ideas of what architecture should be.

Fiercely Presbyterian as she is, she wanted to be married in Westminster Abbey by a Presbyterian minister; but, as Dean Stanley told her father, it would have been "easier to arrange that the marriage should be on the summit of Ben Nevis." As it was, she was married in a Presbyterian church, Dr. Story of Roseneath and Stanley taking part, so that she thereby gratified her wish to be married, as the Dean said, "in two churches at once." In her illogical way she tells us later on that marriages conducted in the home have "a greater atmosphere of hope and peace," for it is "a rite that belongs to the home."

The Political Scene.

Both from her upbringing and from her relationships with the Balfours and the Cecils there is a great deal about politics behind the scenes—tinctured with the idea that "the most illiberal of all things is a Scottish Tory." She herself has veered more and more to Liberalism, for, while her relatives, the Percys—"splendid old Tories"—believe that all good government and prosperity died out at the time of the French Revolution, she as an "inspired prophetess" in their midst told them that "all that is good dates from the Revolution."

No politics, however, have touched her so deeply as the Woman's Cause, which, she says, "gained much from the existence and teapot life" of the Primrose League. And, constitutionalist though she was, the claymore swinging instinct in her makes her exclaim, as she recalls militancy, "How good these days were!" And she recalls with zest how she used to chivvy the reporters at suffragette meetings as "wretched poltroons." Of Mr. McKenna, whose opposition to women during his Home Secretaryship angered her, she says: "He was a complete *épicier*, and has no knowledge of women or of society in any of its graduated shades."

The Passing Show.

A hundred and one vivid glimpses are given of men and movements. Thus she speaks of Stubbs, "undefiled by any suspicion of spirituality"; of Kitchener, "inscrutably mailed in self-conscious silences"; of Queen Victoria, who "never saw a railway ticket," being the first to make the Throne "a vibrant, living centre." She agreed with Dr. Story that Lord Balfour's "Foundations of Belief" was "bletherin' metaphysics." Although she denounces the "sterile senility" of much modern amusement, she confesses to a weakness for billiards, and recalls with glee how Arthur and Gerald Balfour were "maddened" to find themselves occasionally beaten by her "monstrous flukes."

THE UNDERWORLD.

"Strange Company." By S. Theodore Felstead. (Hutchinson. 12s. 6d.)

"Dramas of French Crime." By René Cassellari. (Hutchinson. 18s.)

"Jim the Penman." By George Dilnot. (Bles. 10s. 6d.)

To the amateur of the interesting and picturesque elements in crime the name of Mr. Theodore Felstead on the title-page of a volume dealing with those themes is a sure guarantee. Mr. Felstead knows a good deal about such matters by first-hand experience, and he supplements his own knowledge by that of other experts. "Strange Company" is as good a book as any he has yet given us, which, seeing that he has already such volumes to his credit as "German Spies at Bay" and "The Underworld of London," is a pretty cordial recommendation. It is difficult to say which of the score of all-too-true stories contained in this fascinating volume is the best. All are good, and most are new, at least in the form of coherent narrative.

There is probably no name better known, and none more deeply respected, in the twin worlds of crime and detection than that of M. René Cassellari, of the Sûreté Générale. The son of a French father and an English mother, able to pass unquestioned as a citizen either of France or England, he adds to that great fortuitous advantage the quickness of perception, the readiness of resource, the personal audacity, and the intimate, scientific knowledge of criminal psychology which go to the make-up of the perfect detective. As one reads his quietly written pages one begins to recognise that the figures of Gaboriau's Monsieur Lecoq, Poe's Dupin, and Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes are not shadows of imagination all compact.

While rather hesitating to accord to "Jim the Penman" (James Townsend Saward) a place among the cardinal criminals of history, Mr. George Dilnot—than whom there could hardly be a better judge in such a matter—admits that he was the first to make forgery an organised business, and to devise a technique to guard against discovery which has been the admired model ever since of practitioners of that form of crime.

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A TARIFF MAP.

"Tariff Walls: A European Crusade." By Sir Clive Morrison Bell, M.P. (Murray. 7s. 6d.)

Reviewed by LORD BRENTFORD.

Some three years ago, as I was going into a Cabinet meeting, I saw something on a table which looked very much like a model of Jerusalem in the time of Josephus. On venturing to inquire what it was, someone said: "Don't you know? It is Sir Clive Morrison Bell's Tariff map of Europe." After the Cabinet I had a closer inspection. No wonder the map has had a success; it gave exactly in a pictorial form what one so much wanted to know—the countries, and they are very few, to which we can import our manufactured goods without let or hindrance, and the countries, stretching right up to the United States, which do their level best, by the height of their tariff walls, to prevent our manufactured articles entering their territory. And it seems to me that whenever our American friends want us to be amiable in regard to the reduction of our Navy, or something of that sort which interests them, they don't drop a brick, as the saying is, but they add another brick to the tariff wall—not the most popular thing they could do.

Why do I write this? Because I have just seen a copy of Sir Clive's book with this title. He was my colleague for years in the House of Commons, one of those quiet, influential, large-hearted Conservative members for county seats, not particularly ambitious, always willing to help his leaders, but with no effort at self-advertisement. One day it apparently came into his mind, on thinking over the tariff question, "I wonder whether the world realises what these walls are?" And he then and there built his map. This book is the history of the map, showing how he built it, what the effect of the tariff walls is, and how the map has travelled round Europe. It had a wonderful send-off when it was shown to the leading financiers in the City, in the very holy of holies of finance—the Bank of England itself. From there it was but a step to Geneva, and from Geneva it spread all over the Continent; in fact, a good deal of the book is a delightful record of efforts which Sir Clive made to get the map back from—let us say Copenhagen, in order to get it to Czechoslovakia in time for a meeting there.

It is a simple record of a simple, but at the same time most useful, piece of work, and I commend it to readers not merely as a record of work, but as a record of a most interesting method of convincing the world of one of two things: either the cruelty of foreign tariff walls erected against a Free Trade nation like Great Britain, or, on the other hand, the lesson which I am bound to confess I have drawn from the book—that if they won't take their walls down we must put ours up.

HYMN OF HATE.

"Mr. Lloyd George: A Study." By Sir Charles Mallet. (Benn. 9s.)

Reviewed by PHILIP GUEDALLA.

This is an odd production. Its distinguished author describes it in his Preface as an essay. I think I know an essay when I see one, and a substantial volume of more than 300 pages, in seven chapters and forty-two numbered sections, is not an essay, though it may be a pamphlet suffering from elephantiasis. Neither is it biography. If a biographer may say so, no biography of Mr. Lloyd George could sin quite so grievously against proportion. For Sir Charles dismisses his subject's first fifty years, from birth to the outbreak of war, in twenty-three pages; the next four years receive 100, and the succeeding period 160. Our author evidently has few words to spare for his subject when he was so fortunate as to agree with him. He writes with the simpler object of fault-finding, in order to "say frankly why we can no longer tolerate Mr. Lloyd George," though he omits to state who "we" are, and why Mr. Lloyd George should stand in need of "our" toleration.

Even *Junius* had the discretion to vary the objects of his distaste. Besides, a pamphlet which leaves its purchasers with a shilling change out of half-a-sovereign may also leave them with a sense of grievance. Its weakness is that Sir Charles sometimes affects the tone of history upon materials that rarely rise above the scraps that pamphleteers are fed on. These Roman attitudes are a little inappropriate to the cheerful motley of the confessed partisan. His documentation is peculiar, since he is always at his happiest when culling ill-natured gossip from a gay war time diarist or from a newspaper bitterly opposed to his subject's politics; and his light-hearted condemnation of post-war foreign policy is gaily indifferent to the published testimony of Lord D'Abernon, a very grave omission from any attempt at a serious estimate But perhaps he is not serious. It would almost seem as though Sir Charles had written in a spirit of deliberate caricature. For this book is really the *reductio ad absurdum* of a personal obsession. When things are wrong, he blames his subject; when they are right, the credit only goes elsewhere. Sir Charles is generous to Mr. Lloyd George's subordinates in order that he may be spared the humiliation of praising Mr Lloyd George. The latter's function in this singular charade of history is to make all the blunders; and his anguished biographer follows him querulously through the crowded years, noting his imperfections. It is all a little like a Life of Hamlet by Polonius.

NEW FICTION.

BEFORE AND AFTER THE WAR.

"Rasputin." By Ivan Nazhivin. (Knopf. 21s.)
"It's a Great War." By Mary Lee. (Allen and Unwin. 10s.)
"A Painted Cloth." By Guy Chapman. (Cassell. 7s. 6d.)
"Love's Illusion." By J. D. Beresford. (Collins. 7s. 6d.)
"The Voyage Home." By Storm Jameson. (Heinemann. 7s. 6d.)
"Molten Ember." By John Lindsey. (Chapman and Hall. 7s. 6d.)
"Cannibal Coryton." By G. P. Robinson. (Duckworth. 7s. 6d.)

Reviewed by RALPH STRAUS.

In the very long novel bearing his name, Rasputin himself does not fill the chief rôle, although, I suppose, his shadow sweeps grimly across a great number of its pages. The book, which was written seven or eight years ago and is now translated by Mr. C. J. Hogarth, attempts to give a picture of Russia, and not only, or even chiefly, of its big cities, before, during, and after the Revolution. Its canvas is huge, and its general outlook that of the intelligent Russian who deplores both political extremes. Some of its chapters are fascinating; others are of historical importance; occasionally, however, one finds oneself wanting to "skip."

It is when Rasputin and the Imperial family appear on the scene that one is most interested, and although nothing that will be new to most people emerges, it may fairly be said that the whole pitiful panorama has rarely if ever been painted with more clarity and understanding. The two outstanding features of the book are the portrait of the Emperor and the death-struggles of Rasputin—one of the most terrible scenes in modern fiction—but it should also be added that the provincial vignettes lift the veil from Russia's agony with something more than mere competence.

* * * *

The staccato style which Miss Lee adopts for her prize-winning story is at first distinctly irritating, but I am bound to say that in a little while I was hardly noticing the fact that verbs are few and dots are many. It is the story of an American girl who spent nearly two years in France and Germany during the war—first at a base hospital in Bordeaux, then in Paris with the Air Service, then as a Y.M.C.A. canteen worker a few miles behind the American lines, and finally with the Army of Occupation. And obviously it is a sincere attempt to tell the uncensored truth.

Anne Wentworth is a "decent" girl, who, unlike some of her colleagues, has not come to France "to have a good time," and it may be that she is a little more unfortunate in her experiences than some of the others. Her countrymen, at any rate, do not appear in too pleasant a light. Women and wine seem to be the only two things which can fill their minds. At the same time, ugly though the book may be—and it was meant to be ugly, for the writer does not disguise her disillusionment—it must be given its due. It is a big thing, perhaps a very big thing, vivid, dramatic, outspoken, and at times enthralling.

* * * *

Further war-scenes—and very good they are—will be found in Mr. Chapman's first novel Primarily, however, this rather slight story is concerned with the changing fortunes of a publishing-house during the war years. The background is unusual and skilfully presented. Three brothers succeed to their father's business, and while two are fighting the third attempts "modern" methods, with results which are not altogether successful. Incidentally, none of the brothers is particularly happy in his love-affairs. I found this book very pleasant reading indeed.

Mr. Beresford, putting himself into the skin of an elderly bachelor, takes a look back to the day when, as an enthusiastic youngster just down from Cambridge, he fell in love with a pretty girl, who was not exactly what his fancy had painted her. It is easy to understand Geoffrey Phillips's "innocence" and subsequent fall, and it is as easy (for the reader) to estimate Brenda Maxwell's real character. The little tragi-comedy is told in Mr. Beresford's quietly gracious manner. It is perhaps in the minor key, but reads like the simple truth.

* * * *

Those who did not read "The Lovely Ship" may find themselves rather bewildered when they take up Miss Jameson's new book. It is the second part of the story of Mary Hervey, the head of a shipbuilding firm—a delightful woman, no doubt, if obstinate—and Mrs. Hervey is one of a large family, whose members are at first not easily distinguishable. The events, too, which are here recounted seem a little disjointed. Mary's children leave her, and she loses most of her old friends; on the other hand, she regains her husband's affection. The writing is charming, but there is a lack of form, and for those who, like myself, missed Mrs. Hervey's earlier history, a little cloud remains over the horizon.

Mr. Lindsey, I believe, is a very young man. He has written a first novel which, if not completely satisfactory, has little that is callow about it. The story is a post-war tragedy, cruel and even bitter, but the author has something to say, and says it uncompromisingly. Burford's treatment of his mistress may be hard, but it is not impossible or even improbable. Mr. Lindsey is a man to be watched.

Mr. Robinson, obviously enjoying himself, has created a new Tarzan. His young hero's adventures amongst cannibals are exciting and whimsical enough, though I could have wished for more satire on his return to England But it is very good fun.

A CANDID FRIEND.

"Degenerate Oxford? A Critical Study of Modern University Life." By Terence Greenidge. (Chapman and Hall. 7s. 6d.)

Reviewed by SIR MICHAEL SADLER, Master of University College, Oxford.

May I confess that I began this book with a prejudice against it? From the title I feared that it might be another catchpenny stunt. It happened to reach me on a day when I was too busy to read it. So I handed it to a quick-witted fourth-year man and asked him to report. His comments were uncomplimentary. But when I was able to read the book myself, I found that after a page or two I was coming to a very different opinion about it. The book is full of personal experience, vividly written, plain-spoken and thoroughgoing, but fairminded. I do not know any book which gives a more lively picture of undergraduate opinions in modern Oxford. If we had an equally graphic description, written by a contemporary as candid and well-informed as Mr. Greenidge, of what different sets of undergraduates thought and did in eighteenth-century Oxford, all the historians would be making use of it, as Lecky did of Brown's "Estimate."

Inside Knowledge.

Mr. Greenidge, who took his degree in 1924, knew Oxford well. He was a member of many University clubs and societies, and his horizon is not limited to his own College, Hertford. He has inside knowledge of many sections of Oxford life—athletic, religious, artistic, political. He has the advantage of having been brought up in Oxford. His father was a brilliant don. And Mr. Greenidge himself can write. The book goes with a swing. It may make most people angry His recommendations (thorough going co-education undergraduate committees, both for the University as a whole and for each college, to share with proctors and dons the responsibility of passing judgment on offenders; perhaps a small commission appointed by the State to receive suggestions and to hear appeals; and a vaguely outlined suggestion for the remodelling of the courses leading up to the B.A. degree) would be turned down by all but a small minority of senior men and probably by a large majority of undergraduates. But he means what he says and can say plainly what he means. Only on two points of fact, so far as I am able to check him, (pp 195, 239) does he go astray. His book is what he set out to make it, "a critical study of undergraduate life." It is incisive, as good criticism should be. And it is without malice. Mr. Greenidge loves Oxford, and smites her for her good. He is faithful with his own people, but not false to them.

Possible Observers.

The book is a sign that we want something which has not yet been done for Oxford, or (so far as I am aware) for Cambridge—a careful, well documented, judicious account of what the lectures at the University are really like, and of the various forms of the "tutorial system"; how, in short, from a parent's point of view and from the undergraduate's, the teaching system of the two older universities actually works, and how it strikes a group of well-informed critics from outside. It would be useful to have such a book as a small team of experienced observers might write, after being given every opportunity of hearing college lectures and even (one of them) being present at different sorts of "tutorials." Sir Percy Nunn, Mr. A. E. Zimmern, Sir Philip Hartog, Miss Fry of Somerville, Miss Winifred Holtby, Professor Julian Huxley, Major Church, and Professor David Wilson would be a good team, and their findings would throw light on the situation which has produced already, as signs of trouble coming, books like Mr. Julian Hall's and Mr. W. J. K. Diplock's. The Universities Commissioners, who reported in 1922, might have done what is wanted. But by design, diffidence, or indifference they contented themselves with producing a document very inferior in quality, grasp and style to the report of the Oxford University Commission of which Arthur Stanley and Goldwin Smith were secretaries seventy years before.

HEROES OF THE REVOLUTION.

"The Revolutionaries, 1789-1799." Translated from the French of Louis Madelin. By R. J. S. Curtis. (Arrowsmith. 18s.)

One is irresistibly reminded, in reading the pages of M. Madelin's excellent series of sketches of the great figures of the French Revolution, of those sombre lines in Tennyson's "Vision of Sin," which cast into such fine poetic form the sentence of Vergniaud—"Revolutions, like Saturn, devour their own children."

> Greet her with applausive breath—
> Freedom! Lightly does she tread:
> In her right a civic wreath,
> In her left, a human head.
>
> Let her go! Her thirst she slakes
> Where the bloody conduit runs,
> And her choicest meal she makes
> On the first-born of her sons.

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GOLLANCZ

TENNYSON'S FIRST PLAY.

"The Devil and the Lady." By Alfred Tennyson. (Macmillan. 10s. 6d.)

Reviewed by ALFRED NOYES.

The publication of this early dramatic poem of Tennyson is completely justified. Not only is it an amazing achievement for a boy of 14, but it confirms certain views of his real character which, until recently, had been obscured by a somewhat myopic fashion in criticism. The "reaction" against one of the most exquisite literary artists since Vergil has already spent its force, and the movement is now in the opposite direction. In this early poem we do not discover the Vergil of England; but we do discover the man himself in the making, and—oddly enough—in the boy of 14 we already see the Tennyson who swam in a cloud of tobacco smoke, drank his nightly pint of black and sticky port, and was capable of the most robust humour since the Elizabethans. The overlapping of the generations obscured his real quality and flavour. To the more finicky of the Victorians he was a "bear," and this tradition lingered as a condemnation into a day when—if he had been a contemporary—it would have been recognised as a compliment to his sincerity. His own contemporaries preferred qualities which in our own time have been out of favour; and, as a consequence, the qualities which might have delighted a later day were overlooked by those later critics who had no time to read their authors properly. Tennyson's satire and humour have almost always been overlooked. Yet he was the most merciless satirist of what was wrong in his own age, as "Aylmer's Field" alone would demonstrate. It was Tennyson who painted, with Chaucerian gusto, the "fat-faced curate Edward Bull" and that glorious old pagan "The Northern Farmer."

The Humorous "And."

It was Tennyson who satirised the worst kind of Victorian wedding:—

> And, in six months
> They wedded her, to sixty thousand pounds,
> To lands in Kent and messuages in York,
> *And* slight Sir Robert, with his watery smile
> And educated whisker.

The "and" which I have italicised is touched in with the humour that inspired "The Devil and the Lady." In later poems we find it in scores of passages, like that in which the old agriculturist complains that the Baptists had "washed their nasty sins in his pond and it poisoned the cow." It illuminates not only his tale of the "Old Wife" and the plump headwaiter at the "Cock," but also the "Vision of Sin," in a grimmer mood. The author of "The City of Dreadful Night" would not have misunderstood that Vision if he had been able to read "The Devil and the Lady."

The Devil as Guardian.

"The Devil and the Lady" is an amusing story of how an old magician, named Magus, calls up the Devil to help him to guard his young wife, Amoret, against other suitors during his absence. The Devil plays his part with enthusiasm, and decides that his most effective course will be to impersonate Amoret and receive the attentions of her suitors himself. This leads to a great deal of high-spirited boyish comedy, in which two of the most remarkable characteristics are the amazing resources of its vocabulary and the delightful absorption of the young author in his extravaganza. There is not a trace of the latter-day self-consciousness. Here, for instance, is the Devil preparing to receive one of the suitors:—

> Some smooth-chinned Tyro just emerging
> From Hobbledehoyhood's twilight, and elated
> With the dark sproutings of incipient beard . . .
> Now will I cloak myself, and thus conceal
> This grim fantastic nose, and these wide lips,
> That staring shew the black and knotty teeth
> That fence my jaws like hedge-stakes (I have lost
> Much of original beauty since my fall).
> Now will I smooth the harshness of my voice
> Into a feminine croak, tuck up my tail,
> And thus unsex myself.
> (Draws the hood over his face.)

And this passage follows another, in which the Devil discusses the eternal question of philosophy as to the "Thing in itself."

The passage is couched in terms which are an astonishing revelation of the young author's intellectual powers; and, indeed, farcical as the subject of the play may seem, it would not greatly suffer by comparison if it had formed one of the humorous interludes in the "Faust" of Goethe. There are suggestions of "The Tempest" here and there; and it is interesting to note that Tennyson begins his career with a youthful jest at the point where Shakespeare dropped his wand.

Heralding the Later Artist.

There are touches of description, "the delighted bee in the calyx of a lily," that herald the later artist; and already there is the scientific imagery, amazing at the age and in the period at which it was used. One of the suitors says to the Devil (disguised as Amoret):—

> The section
> Of one small minute (if 'twere spent with thee),
> Nay, the minutest point of time in which
> The inconceivable velocity
> Of light can travel thro' one barley-corn
> Of the Ether, were enough to raise me
> From out my present humour. . . .

When two of the suitors quarrel there is a

Continued at foot of next column.

SCIENCE AND CIVILISATION.

"Our Changing Civilisation." By John Herman Randall, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Philosophy in Columbia University. (Allen and Unwin. 12s. 6d.)

Reviewed by H. C. MINCHIN.

The civilisation discussed in this treatise is that of the United States. True, Mr. Randall thinks that the European nations are likely to move, in some cases are already moving, in the same direction; but English readers will be struck with the differences, rather than the similarities, between American sociology and our own. Even so, in these days of shrunken distances and rapid transit, instructive comparisons can be drawn, and speculations entertained whether the future may not contain for Great Britain also some social order of a like complexion.

Starting, as from a text, with the remarkable post-war museum which has been got together at Munich, wherein can be traced the progress of those "many inventions" which applied science is constantly bringing nearer to perfection, the author reviews the triumphs of technology which have revolutionised industry in his country, and brought about that amazing prosperity of which nowadays we are hearing more and more. America pays greater heed to her employed than to her unemployed. Her business magnates believe in keeping up high wages, so that the wage-earners may have money to buy their manufactured goods. These being produced in the mass, and the tariff making imported articles costly, standardisation of the material things of life naturally ensues. But may not, in consequence, standardisation follow in things intangible? What effect will the laboratory and the machine have on art, morals, and religion? These are the questions which Mr. Randall considers, and which in this book he sets himself to answer. He is bound, in order to reply, to inquire also into the quality of the human material upon which science (he holds) is working its will; and this leads to some very frank and interesting criticism of his fellow-countrymen, whose inconsistencies he does not spare.

> Though we are still a curious blend of crudity and insight, we are gaining knowledge. We spend millions on sanitation and public health. We have reduced the infant mortality rate to unprecedented figures. Though we tolerate vast stretches of ugliness, we are keenly aware that beauty exists. We may dance to weird strains, but we flock to the best music. Though we flood the world with horrors from Hollywood, we eagerly snatch the great paintings of the past. We perpetrate slums, but our architects are as creative as any in the world. Though we consume the *Saturday Evening Post* and Harold Bell Wright, we are also the chief support of many a European writer who despises our barbarism.

Dipping into the Future.

Adversity, Bacon pointed out, is the blessing of the New Testament; but such a blessing will tend, when all men prosper, to be meaningless. Equally, argues the author, men's conceptions of art and morals are changing. The world is (as usual) in a state of transition. Thousands, he assures us, are irked by the tyranny of the machine, and find no real satisfaction in the Dead Sea fruits of prosperity. The hours of leisure are as impracticable to them as they were to the Roman noble in the poem, though they drive their cars as recklessly as he his chariot; but we are to anticipate an epoch-making change:—

> As the architect is ceasing to try to bend steel and concrete into the semblance of Greek temples and Renaissance palaces, and instead is exploring the forms they can appropriately assume, so coming generations will develop an art, a religion, and a moral idealism that are at one with the spirit of science and the resources of technology. . . . The new life will hold possibilities men have never faced before. Who can say that the new forms will not be the richer, when they no longer press upon us from without, but are the unconscious mould in which we function?

And who, again, can affirm that they will be?

Continued from preceding column.

freshness and vigour of speech which, even in its Elizabethan trappings, might serve the modern reporter of a prize fight:—

> I'll make the patchwork peep, I warrant you,
> Disorganize your victualling office, uncork
> The claret of your nob, and dim your daylights,
> And make your ivories chatter in the tusk-box.

To which the other suitor, putting up his fists, remarks, "I'm your man, sir!" The Devil, entering behind, as Amoret, trips him up, saying, "And I your woman, sir."

An Abrupt Ending.

The manuscript ends as abruptly as Sir James Barrie's "Shall We Join the Ladies?" but on a note which, if it were well stage-managed, would be as grimly humorous, and as humorously horrifying, as that maturer little masterpiece. The Devil has all his suitors hidden about the house and is preparing to yield to them. A wicked old physician is pleading with him:—

> Wilt unveil then,
> My liniment of linseed, my Electuary,
> My syrup of Poppies, eh? My flower of sulphur.

And the Devil, noting this last "home-thrust," makes his decision:—

> My thoughts begin to burn; a Devil's heat
> Glows through me to the core. Have at ye, sirs!

It would have to be staged in the manner of the "Beggar's Opera"; and, as a curtain-raiser to something more solid, this humorous work of the young Tennyson would delight the town of to-day and give the critics more to think about and puzzle over than has entered their heads for a very long time. The final situation might even be taken as a parable, illustrating exactly what has been happening to the literature and art of the pseudo-moderns. The Devil has her yielding to his suitors. Whether they will enjoy the consequences is another story.

BOOKS & WRITERS.

SELECTION FOR THE LIBRARY

MR. LLOYD GEORGE: A STUDY.
By Sir Charles Mallet. (Benn. 9s.)

NE OBLIVISCARIS: DINNA FORGET.
By Lady Frances Balfour. (Hodder and Stoughton. 42s).

THE ODYSSEY OF AN ORCHID HUNTER.
By F. D. Burdett. (Jenkins. 18s.)

THE DEVIL AND THE LADY.
By Alfred Tennyson. (Macmillan. 10s. 6d.)

Most of the publishers have now sent out complete lists of their spring books, and many of the announcements are tempting. That of Macmillan's is unusually good, headed by Mrs. Hardy's "Later Years of Thomas Hardy, 1891-1928," for her first volume was so well done that we are anxious to get the end of the story, all the more as it covers the period of his development as a poet. That aspect of Hardy will be illustrated in the publication by the same house this month of "Chosen Poems of Thomas Hardy," which contains some of the things he wrote in the last months of his long life.

* * * *

Another very interesting book from Macmillan's should be "The Hamwood Papers of the Ladies of Llangollen and Caroline Hamilton," consisting of the hitherto unpublished diaries of Lady Eleanor Butler and of Caroline Hamilton, of Hamwood, County Meath, edited by her great-grandniece, Mrs. G. H. Bell (John Travers), the novelist. A fourth Irish lady will be dealt with in the continuation of the "Retrospections of Dorothea Herbert," which was one of the literary finds of last year, published by Mr. Gerald Howe. It deals with her picturesque love affair, and the scene is again in the South of Ireland.

* * * *

A good example of how one art can stimulate another is again afforded by the Italian Exhibition at Burlington House. We have already had several new books on Italian art, and now we are to get from Macmillan a work on "Florentine Sculptors of the Fifteenth Century," by Mr. William Ormsby-Gore, hitherto best known by his Parliamentary work, while a very elaborate and pioneer book on "Florentine Frescoes" has been done for Jack by Dr. Tancred Borenius, Durning-Lawrence Professor of the History of Art in the University of London. It will contain no fewer than thirty plates in colour and forty-three in monochrome.

* * * *

Lord Alness, Lord Justice-Clerk of Scotland, who was better known in Westminster as Mr. Robert Munro, has become an admirable speaker, and a volume of his essays and addresses is to be given us in the spring by Nelson.

* * * *

A book called "Mars, or the Truth about War," by Alain, is to be published in translation by Mr. Cape, with an introduction by M. Denis Saurat, who is professor of French Literature at the University of London. It is said to be "the most profound French book on the war," inasmuch as it expresses the mature thoughts of a scholar as well as the observation of a man of action. Another war book from the same house is "The White Army," which has been translated from the Russian. Mr. Cape will also give us "The Soviets in World Affairs."

* * * *

Readers of the SUNDAY TIMES will have seen by the extracts that Mr. Spender's life of the late Lord Cowdray contains a great amount of interesting material on vast engineering enterprises in almost every corner of the globe. The book is to be published by Cassell on the 20th.

* * * *

I hear that Mr. J. D. Beresford is striking out a new line in his novel, "Love's Illusion," which is to be published this week by Collins. It has been written in the Herefordshire rectory near which he was born, and where he has settled down after his long sojourn abroad. To some extent it will be a regional novel.

* * * *

Is there a hell? A symposium of modern thought on this subject is coming from Cassell this month under the title—"What is the Real Hell?" The question is tackled by several contributors, ranging from Dean Inge and Bishop Welldon, to Sir Oliver Lodge, Annie Besant, and Sheila Kaye-Smith.

* * * *

Hazlitt wrote so much that the centenary edition of his "Complete Works," announced by Dent, will fill twenty-one volumes, or eight volumes more than the edition of 1902-1906, which is now out of print. A good deal of hitherto uncollected material will be published for the first time.

* * * *

Georges Clemenceau was such a very vivid person that it is not at all surprising that we are to have two books upon him. One, by George Adam, who has been a long time in France, will be issued by Jonathan Cape under the title of "The Tiger." The other is called "Clemenceau; the Events of His Life as Told by Himself to His Former Secretary, Jean Martet," and will be published in a translation by Milton Waldman by Longmans. Clemenceau was essentially a speaker, and his executor, M. Nicholas Piétri, after reading M. Martet's manuscript, said: "It is the living voice of Clemenceau."

* * * *

The versatility of Professor Leonard Hill will be shown in his children's book, "The Jolly Tinker," which he has written and illustrated for Mr. Gollancz. Professor Hill, who is a son of the great Johnsonian, Birkbeck Hill, and the brother of Mr. Justice Hill, is known among scientific men as a great physiologist, but he is also a painter of high distinction.

J. M. B.

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Miss Boyle's "detective" story is on rather unusual lines, for her convict is not a ruffian and her detective not a "sleuth." Nevertheless, their adventures make excellent reading, and the situations are highly original. Persshe, Kits, Babs and Co.—the young people who make such amusing use of the bungalow bath—are in good truth a pleasant company; seeing they are a trifle lawless, readers will not like them the less for that. 7/6

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. . . . HUGH WALPOLE in *GOD BLESS VICTORIA!* looks back at that *"Charming, stubborn, divinely appointed little ghost, in her bonnet shawl, pony-chaise waiting decorously under John Brown's guardianship, and the Indian servant, his arms folded, his eyes fixed sternly on his tawny-coloured East."* . . . . . and in *ITALIA! ITALIA!* RICHARD SICKERT, A.R.A., writes of the 'sporting stunt' to which the Royal Academy has succumbed. . . . . REBECCA WEST discusses Evelyn Waugh and the school of Disillusionists. . . . . OSBERT SITWELL has a tale to tell of a man, and an ape, and the faith of a mongrel puppy. . . . . In *CANCER AND THE NATURAL LIFE,* C. LOUIS LEIPOLDT gives an answer to the diet faddists . . . . . while in *THE GOLD QUESTION,* A. J. LIVERSEDGE explains the thermometric state of our Bank Rate and our depleted gold supply. . . . . There is also AUGUR who in *WHAT OF ENGLAND?* has some important truths to tell about the political position of England at the beginning of 1930. . . . . Light is cast upon other subjects, notably on *THE POETS OF SOVIET RUSSIA,* by JOHN HALLETT . . . . . and on the advent of the Penny Press, with all its love of horrors and sporadic brilliancies, by B. IFOR EVANS, who has an interesting prophecy to make in regard to the future of daily Journalism. . . . . .

If you would know again how fine a thing descriptive English prose can be, read V. S. PRITCHETT'S story, *THE CORSICAN INN.* . . . . . *"These mountains were like cathedrals. There were naves and aisles of granite and a transept of fine magnitude appeared, upon which the rain gleamed like windows. There were buttresses of out-flying spurs, and round green hills were put at their feet like chapels. Then I entered the silence of a dark moonless night."* . . . . .

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7/6 PETER DAVIES 7/6

THE SPANISH CRISIS.

WHAT OF THE FUTURE?

THE KING'S PATRIOTIC ATTITUDE.

By SIR CHARLES PETRIE, BART.

The fall of General Primo de Rivera's administration was expected by every competent observer from the moment it became known that the Prime Minister had asked for a vote of confidence from the senior military and naval officers, for such a step was not only an insult to civilian opinion, but it was a grave affront to the King himself, upon whose prerogative it seriously encroached. Unfortunately, the consequences of this act, the folly of which the General has now admitted, are not calculated to render either the immediate or the ultimate solution of the present crisis any easier, for they have given a decided impetus to anti-military feeling among the politicians, and they resulted in forcing the issue at a moment when there was no obvious alternative to the late Government.

At the same time, there is fortunately no tendency to judge General Primo de Rivera by the unhappy events which precipitated his fall, and both in Spain and abroad generous tribute is already being paid to what he has done, in particular to the victorious conclusion of the war in Morocco, and to the restoration of order in the Peninsula itself. What is wanted, in short, by the average Spaniard, is not a complete reversal of the policy of the late Government, but rather its continuance with some modification so far as individual liberty is concerned. The difficulty is to find a regime which will do this, for a simple reversion to the old order which came to an end six years ago would only mean the return of the old and discredited politicians who dragged the country to the brink of disaster, from which it was saved by the *coup d'état* of General Primo de Rivera.

* * * *

Undoubtedly the most reassuring factor in a very confused situation is the personality of King Alfonso himself. Those who are acquainted with the inner history of Spain during the past two decades realise that the real power in that country lies with the Crown, but this is the first time during the present reign that the monarchy has openly played the leading part at a crisis. Few Spaniards, even of the Left parties, care to place themselves in direct opposition to the occupant of the throne, however much they may criticise the latter as an institution, and the strong monarchist feeling of the nation as a whole affords the best hope of the solution of a problem with which the King is so intimately connected.

In these circumstances it may be asked why King Alfonso does not, like King Alexander of Yugoslavia, become his own dictator. The answer is that he does not favour dictatorship, save as a temporary expediency, and in common with the majority of his subjects he feels that what the country needs to-day is not a continuance of the rigid control of the past six years, but a modified relaxation of it, and General Berenguer's removal of the censorship of the Press is significant of the King's own views. In effect, Spanish opinion regards the monarch as a force always in reserve for an emergency, not as an actor who should continually be playing a part upon the political stage, and there can be little doubt that this is also the view that King Alfonso takes of his own position.

* * * *

It would, however, be idle to pretend that the situation is not serious. It is always easier to found a dictatorship than to liquidate the effects of one, and in the present instance the circumstances of General Primo de Rivera's fall have, as has been shown, enormously complicated the position. Moreover, there are in all countries at the present time certain subversive forces at work, and one may be sure that every advantage will be utilised by them which is presented by any weakening of administrative control. There is also to be taken into account the somewhat excessive individualism that marks the Spanish character, and is the cause of the violent oscillations between democracy and despotism that have been so prominent a feature of the history both of Spain herself and of the republics of Spanish America.

If the new Government, influenced by the inevitable reaction from the dictatorial regime, allows itself to be pushed too far to the Left, the old bad days of democratic maladministration will return, and the consequence of that will certainly be another dictatorship; in which case it is to be feared that Spain will find herself committed once more to that course of successive revolutions and reactions which proved so fatal to her during last century. On the other hand, if a balance can be struck between the two extremes—no easy task in a country hitherto so politically apathetic—there is no reason why a new Constitution, with a considerable popular element included, should not be evolved which will stand the test of time. Fortunately, signs are not wanting that the younger generation is neither so wedded to catchwords nor so indifferent to the broader issues as its predecessor, and if the old politicians do attempt to resume control they may well find that the nation will now have none of them.

* * * *

So far it is possible to be optimistic. A Government which includes the Duke of Alba and Admiral Carvia will assuredly command the respect of moderate opinion, while the presence of General Marzo at the Ministry of the Interior is sure proof that disorders will not be tolerated. The Spanish public, too, has—a handful of students alone excepted—behaved with an exemplary calm. The testing-time of the new Administration, however, is now at hand, and it will be judged by its success or failure in steering a middle course between licence and despotism.

LORD COWDRAY'S LIFE.

HIS MEXICAN ACHIEVEMENTS.

THE TEHUANTEPEC RAILWAY.

This is the third series of excerpts from Mr. J. A. Spender's "Life of Lord Cowdray," which is to be shortly published in book form by Messrs. Cassell and Co.

After his spell of hard and perilous work on the Hudson Tunnel in October and November, 1889, Pearson had greatly desired to get home before Christmas, but found that he could get no return passage which would bring him back in time. So, having to stay, he proposed to his wife that they should get out of the frost and snow of New York and take a trip to Mexico on the new train—the Montezuma Express—which was then being widely advertised as an easy way to the "sunny South." His wife warmly approved, and they started together in the second week of December.

This is how the thing actually happened, but Pearson's holidays often had a motive, and it was no doubt in his mind when he started south from New York that Mexico was a land of opportunity for the contractor and engineer. Anyway, the trip led up into contracts for the construction of the Grand Canal and of the Vera Cruz harbour, and thereafter for the reconditioning of the Tehuantepec Railway, which last Pearson described at the time as the greatest of all his undertakings. In this, as it turned out, he was to be not only contractor, but manager and part-owner, sharing risks and profits with the Mexican Government.

From the earliest days of the conquest the idea of making the predestined cut between the Atlantic and Pacific across Mexican territory and through the Isthmus of Tehuantepec had been in the minds of the rulers of Mexico, and surveys for the construction of roads, digging of canals, and deepening of rivers on this route may be found in their archives from the sixteenth century onwards. With the coming of railways it was realised that the ridge of the Sierra Madre, with its 700 ft. elevation, which the engineers had considered fatal to a canal, was no very serious obstacle to a railway, and from the middle of the nineteenth century onwards the idea of a Tehuantepec railway began to occupy the thoughts not only of the Mexicans, but of foreign engineers, promoters, and concessionaires.

Linking Two Oceans.

The story of these years is little more than a list of concessions given and cancelled, of American schemes for railway or canal, which foundered either on the demands of the Mexican Government or on the resistance of the Mexican people, till at last a British group stumbled on to the completion of some sort of railway in the year 1897.

From first to last some 38,000,000 dollars had now been spent on the scheme, and the result was altogether disappointing. The Mexican Government could indeed boast that "ocean had been linked up with ocean," but the railway which constituted the link was so flimsily built that it could not carry the heavy traffic which alone could have made it profitable, and the port accommodation at either end was so inadequate that it could not have been fed with this traffic if the railway had been able to carry it. Even the light passenger cars took from fifteen to twenty hours to cross the Isthmus, and were lucky if they escaped mishap. It was clear to President Diaz that either too much or too little had been done, and once more he had recourse to Pearson, the Englishman whose capacity and trustworthiness he had tested and proved at Vera Cruz and the Mexican plateau.

A Daring Contract.

The contract, or deed of partnership, was formally concluded on November 18, 1899, and its details show the courage with which Pearson backed both his belief in Mexico and his confidence in the future of the Tehuantepec Railway. He undertook to reconstruct that railway at cost price, and to construct the two terminal ports under contract. When the railway was completed, he was to share any losses on its working equally with the Government, to provide half of a nominal capital of 5,000,000 dollars, afterwards raised to 7,000,000 dollars, whenever it was necessary to call it up; and if and when net profits, after paying fixed charges, were earned, to receive 37½ per cent. of them for the first five years, 34 per cent. for the next five, 30 per cent. and 26 per cent. respectively for the subsequent periods of five years. He also undertook to establish maritime services in both oceans, running in connection with the railway and establishing through routes between Atlantic and Pacific ports. The partnership was for fifty years from the completion of the railway, but it might be rescinded by the contractor if the losses exceeded 5,000,000 dollars, or by the Government at any time by buying out the contractor's share.

For the next few years a large part of Pearson's business in Mexico was in connection with the Tehuantepec Railway. His business was to reduce gradients, straighten curves, substitute steel bridges and viaducts for wooden ones, relay and strengthen the bed of all parts of the line. The specification suggests nothing but what competent engineers backed with sufficient capital could carry through without difficulty in Europe, and the previous failures might be ascribed to mismanagement or lack of capital. But in fact the difficulties were very great. From June onwards for several months the rainy season made all constructional work impossible and threatened any that was unfinished with destruction. On the eastern side the rainfall was 123 ins. per annum, of which 24 ins. fell in one month, and though it was much less on the western side, the route was traversed by two or three rivers which brought floods from their head-water—200 kilometres away—to swell the local rainfall, and carried away bridges and washed out banks on days of blue sky and sunshine.

A Lead in Tropical Sanitation.

To the north was a dense jungle glorious with tropical flowers and foliage, but reeking with malaria; and the whole region lay in the yellow-fever belt of which de Lesseps and his engineers had had so fearful an experience in Panama a few years previously. The temperature in the summer months varied between 90 deg. and 98 deg. in the shade, and the nights were nearly as hot as the days; on the central part of the line mosquitoes and sand-flies were in such quantities that even native labourers had to work with their heads and faces covered. Finally, and very important for the contractor, earthquake shocks were frequent, and all work had to be so constructed as to have a reasonable chance of withstanding them.

Youth, and the spirit of adventure, rose to the occasion, but Pearson took no unnecessary chances. He had always been careful of the health and comfort of his men, and he saw at once that to house them properly, to provide pure water and clean food, and to have medical aid at hand was an absolute necessity if he was not to be beaten by disease. From the first his instruction books abound in injunctions to get forward with the houses and workshops at Rincon Antonio—the relatively healthy spot chosen for staff headquarters—and to spare no cost in providing pure water. But no possible precautions could altogether eliminate these risks, and more than once yellow fever descended on the workers and took its toll. True to his principle of not asking others to do what he would not do himself, Pearson took his chances with the rest, and had sometimes to be almost forcibly restrained from exposing himself, as his staff thought, unduly.

"Impossibilities" Accomplished.

The whole 192 miles of line needed to be reconstructed and re-equipped. Except for sand and earth collected from the immediate neighbourhood, the greater part of the line was unballasted, and most of the sleepers and rails were already showing signs of wear. Everything was deficient, and new and more powerful locomotives and many more ballast cars were urgently needed. All these essentials were provided in the next two years, and the work went methodically forward and with the least possible interruption to the daily service across the Isthmus provided by the former railway. Before the end of 1904 this service was increased and expedited, and an American who travelled by it at this time recorded his astonishment at the "impossibilities" which had been accomplished. He saw a solid railway as good as the best in most parts of his country, bridges of steel with the best masonry abutments, easy gradients, and embankments and cuttings that were to all appearances weatherproof.

To the end of his life Pearson looked back on Tehuantepec as one of the greatest and most difficult achievements of his firm, and the bare record of its various stages can do little justice to the unceasing struggle with nature, climate, and disease which it involved for himself and his workers. These were days in which tropical medicine was still in its infancy, and he had to work by a few common-sense rules for enforcing cleanliness and hygiene. But the strict observance of these on the scale that he enforced them was a novelty at that time and led the way to the more elaborate and scientific methods that were developed in the subsequent years.

The commercial results when the line was opened not only justified but far exceeded Pearson's expectations. He had spoken of 600,000 tons as a reasonable estimate of the traffic it should handle; in 1909 the actual amount was 699,000; in 1910, 856,000; in 1911, 1,028,000. Then Diaz fell from power and Mexico was plunged into revolutionary strife and internal disorder, but under the Pearson management, and with Mr. W. B. Ryan as vice-president and general manager, the Tehuantepec Railway maintained its services uninterruptedly up to and including the first years of the war.

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Copies of the issues of January 19 and 26, containing the first two instalments, can be obtained of the Publisher, 200, Gray's Inn Road.

A DESERT CONFERENCE.

THE PEACE OF ARABIA.

FROM A CORRESPONDENT.

Whether it be through the Hand of Allah or through the political genius of the British authorities in the Middle East, the desert meeting which is to take place, in a day or two, probably at As Safa, an obscure oasis in Nejd, south-west of the small principality of Kuwait, between King Ibn Saud of the Hijaz and Nejd and King Faisal of Iraq, is certainly a most welcome and unexpected development of the Arabian problem. Notoriously there has been no love lost between these two monarchs—between the two Houses in fact, the Sharifian and the Saudi Houses, which they represent: it even seemed as though circumstances were driving these two chieftains, who shared but one thing, Anglophilism, farther and farther apart. By a most happy chance, however, the leader of the Wahhabis has found himself, during the last week or so, in the north-eastern corner of his vast State, not very far from the Iraq frontier. For he has in person been conducting the successful campaign against the rebellious *Ikhwan*, who two years ago kicked over the traces, invaded Iraq, and generally kept the whole of Central Arabia in a state of fear and uncertainty.

But now Shaikh Faisal al Dawish, the leader of the fanatical Mutair tribe and ringleader of those Nejdis who dared to oppose King Ibn Saud, has been captured in Iraq: his band of freebooters appears finally to have been dispersed. Gone, then, is the long-standing excuse for enmity between Iraq, which is to enter the League of Nations in 1932, and Nejd, which, together with Hijaz, is already an independent State and the early canvassing of which for membership of the League of Nations is not an impossibility. There have, of course, been many raids into and from Iraq other than those provoked by Faisal al Dawish, but it was this fierce old warrior who, more than anyone else in Arabia, personified the old tribal right of the *ghazzu* (raid) as against the newer, international right of respect of treaties and even for artificially constructed frontiers.

THE BOUNDARY PROBLEM.

It is the frontier question as between Iraq and Nejd which provides the capital problem of the Royal conference in the desert. In 1922 Ibn Saud (Sultan of Nejd, as he then was) agreed with Sir Percy Cox, then High Commissioner for Iraq, on a certain boundary line drawn mathematically from point to point through a desert which in Turkish times had been claimed neither as Iraq nor as Nejd, given the observance of certain conditions, such as tribal right of access to wells. As is generally known now, one of these conditions was that no fortification should be built by any well "within the vicinity of the frontier." The British authorities in Iraq, together with the Iraq Government, conceived the idea, in 1926, of more firmly controlling the predatory instincts of their own tribes (that is, tribes mainly resident in Iraq) by means of erecting a police post at Busaiya, some seventy miles from the frontier. Whether this could be interpreted as being "within the vicinity of the frontier" has been variously estimated.

The sequel is generally known. How, after a longish interval, a strong band of *Ikhwan* from Nejd demolished this post, how this action and subsequent punitive measures by the R.A.F. in Iraq gave rise to rumours of a "holy war" in desert Arabia, how the fort was rebuilt, and how it since has served as a "point of peace" in the desert—all this is probably well known.

Yet, apart from the problem of the "frontier-posts," there does remain a very important question concerning this artificial frontier. In 1921, the Wahhabis under Ibn Saud defeated the historic Rashid dynasty, whose capital was at Hayil. Sooner than accept domination at the hands of the Wahhabis a large section of the great Shammar tribe, hitherto subject to Ibn Rashid, took refuge in Iraq. Now, King Ibn Saud has consistently claimed these refugee Shammar as his rightful subjects, and the Iraq Government has equally consistently preferred, against this claim, the desert custom of giving hospitality to refugees.

A COMPREHENSIVE TREATY.

A new aspect of this same problem is provided by the rebels, in this last revolt of 1929 against Ibn Saud, who have taken refuge in Iraq: their number is uncertain, but it runs into many hundreds. Are they to be delivered up as common criminals, or are they merely political offenders fleeing from oppression at home? The law of extradition as between Iraq and Nejd does not seem to be very clearly defined, though it is known that, in the abortive negotiations which the late Sir Gilbert Clayton had with King Ibn Saud in 1928, the Iraq Government expressed willingness to grant much more favourable terms of extradition to the Wahhabi State.

Great Britain has great interests in the establishment of general peace in Arabia. It is certainly an historic moment that is being marked by this conference in the desert between two of the noblest Kings of Arabia. It is sincerely to be hoped that a comprehensive treaty, defining Ibn Saud's real position in Arabia, and particularly his relationship with Iraq, will be consummated.

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A WANDERER'S NOTEBOOK.

SAINT TROPEZ AND ITS ADMIRAL.

By E. V. LUCAS.

In the search for summer heat, as everyone now knows, the South of France has been rediscovered To visit it in the winter has long been a mechanical act; although by me to be avoided, for its winter radiance is not a cordial, beneficent outpouring, but fitful and treacherous, followed at eve by a perilous fall in temperature. But to visit the South of France in summer, anywhere between Hyères, its islands, and Ventimille, on the Franco-Italian frontier, is to be assured of tropical skies and a sea of a pleasing tepidity. Having rejoiced under torrid rays in many parts of the earth, I can give it as my own opinion that the South of France can, even though it be a delusion, convey the sensation of greater heat than the Equator itself.

* * * *

Far from the coolest of the French watering places which are so steadily gaining popularity is St Tropez, in the department of Var, an ancient seaport of mixed ancestry which lies on the south bank of the Gulf of St. Tropez, between Toulon and St. Raphael, on a coast fragrant with myrtle and pines. Each year the number of house-agents' notice-boards, offering desirable lots, increases particularly on each side of St. Maxime, from St. Aygulf on the east to Beauvallon on the west, where a delicious *vin rosé* is grown; but St. Tropez itself is comparatively safe, for—not a mushroom settlement for sun-beetles, like these others—every inch that can be built on has been built on for many, many years. Although, however, the town is fixed, about it are villas springing up, not a few occupied by English residents whose instinct for finding delectable refuges to which Somerset House officials cannot penetrate is becoming infallible. These villas are extending to Ramatuelle, another of those hill-top citadels like Biot, of which I was writing recently, from whose ramparts the Mediterranean glitters so gaily. It was from Ramatuelle that the inevitable invading Saracens were repulsed in the dark ages, by a very odd weapon indeed, and probably far more efficacious than boiling oil, molten lead, or any missile: none other than swarms of bees. "I'll set my bee at you!"—that is a terrible threat.

* * * *

Like Marseilles, St. Tropez probably had a Phœnician origin. Its present style came in the second century, after the holy and steadfast Torpetius, an early Christian, had been put to death there, Tropez being the Gallicisation of this name. Then, as part of the fixed routine of Provençal towns, came destruction by the Saracens, not once but twice, and, in the tenth century, rebuilding under Guillaume the First, Count of Provence. More vicissitudes were, however, to follow, for in the struggle between the Duke of Anjou and Charles de Duras in the fifteenth century, St. Tropez was again demolished, and, although restored, had become to the natives so unattractive a seaside residence that strong repopulating methods were necessary. An emissary was therefore despatched to the crowded city of Genoa, which, I suppose, even then had a fecund look, to put before the eyes of some specially-selected fruitful Genoese the delights and advantages of the French seaport. The ambassador was so plausible that, on St. Valentine's Day, 1471, twenty-one married couples of Genoa, with their young families, disembarked at St Tropez to make their homes there. Hence the high Italian façades of certain of the houses on the quay; hence the blend of Italian and French blood which the sociologist may discern to-day in many of the inhabitants.

* * * *

The more visible population of St. Tropez when I was there in July last was, however, composed of artists, with and without the final "e," from the two Parisian mountains—that of Parnassus and that of the Martyr—and invaders from Mid-Europe. The mountaineers were the more noticeable, bringing with them, I was told, their incorrigible tendency to turn night into day. Certainly those around me who, in the principal café on the quay, were preparing their weary systems for lunch, gave no sign of having come to the seaside for any of its usual benefits, which here are augmented by *spécialités* of the town in the form of nougat and gaudy but attractive coats for the fair, made at St. Tropez, and, I believe, at St. Tropez only, out of the peasants' coloured handkerchiefs.

* * * *

But the glory of St. Tropez is its local hero, the sturdy admiral, who is to be seen in bronze, on the quay, facing his old element, with chain shot at his top-booted feet and a megaphone (is it?) in his hand, and far too many heavy clothes on. But a fine, aggressive figure, none the less. This admiral was the great Suffren—or, in full, Pierre André de Suffren Saint Tropez (1729-1788), bailli of the Order of Malta—son of the Marquis de Saint Tropez who was, in his day, the overlord of this domain, and whose massive house still stands, close to the Genoese quarter. If he had had a Suffren, Napoleon is reported to have said, he would have made short work of Nelson and the English navy. The bailli's early years gave him every opportunity of studying naval tactics, even though he was infrequently on the winning side. When only 18 he was taken prisoner by Hawke. In 1756 he was a lieutenant in the Orphée, in the battle of Minorca, when the defeat of the English fleet brought about Byng's ruin and execution. But not till 1781, when in command of a squadron, was Suffren able to assert his dogged individuality. Then, says David Hannay, in commenting upon the action at Porto Praya in 1781, when Suffren routed Commodore Johnstone, he proved to the English that "in him they had to deal with an admiral of quite a different type from the Frenchmen they had been accustomed to as yet."

* * * *

The solid pugnacity of the great bronze head tells you that here was a determined foe. All through 1782 and 1783, off the coasts of India and Ceylon, he was harassing Hastings and Hughes, and nothing, it is said, but the lack of support given him by certain of his captains, who were not used to such vigour and address, kept him from sweeping our ships from those seas. He died, in harness, at the age of 59, some records say of apoplexy, and some that he was killed in a duel to which he had been provoked by the Prince de Mirepoix, who asked him to do something discreditable to an admiral of France and a bailli of the Order of Malta, and detrimental to the best interests of the Navy. On refusing, he was challenged, and fell.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Golden Weddings Record.

Sir,—The four golden weddings in one family cited in your last issue are certainly not a record, as in my own family there have been five brothers who have celebrated their golden weddings, and the eldest, who died in his 91st year, had a diamond wedding. Possibly this is unique. I give their names:—

B Boothroyd (deceased, Weston-super-Mare).
P. H. Boothroyd (Colorado, U.S.A.).
W J. Boothroyd (Southport).
I. W. Boothroyd (Chingford).
A. E. Boothroyd (St. Leonards-on-Sea).

The last named is the youngest, and was married on July 9, 1878. I am 82 years old, and am the only widower of the four survivors. I celebrated my golden wedding on May 25, 1921.

Southport. W. J. BOOTHROYD.

Khaki.

From SIR GEORGE ARTHUR, Bart.

Sir,—In the interesting correspondence about khaki no one, I think, has given the Duke of Connaught his due. The Duke, when commanding the Brigade of Guards in Egypt in 1887, was greatly struck by the appearance of the Indian contingent, whose uniform was not only far more comfortable, but also, of course, far less conspicuous in the desert. On his return to England he urged on the Duke of Cambridge the merits of "khaki" for troops in the field, and the colour was adopted for the Gordon Relief Force in 1889.

Carlton Club, S.W. GEORGE ARTHUR.

Picture with a History.

Sir,—Here is a little bit more history of "A Boy With a Puzzle," now at Burlington House In the catalogue of the Hamilton Palace Collection sale at Christie's, June 17 to July 20, 1882, it was "Lot 760. L. da Vinci, 'A Laughing Boy,'" and the price was £2,205. The catalogue has a reproduction of a pen-drawing of the picture, there are also notes of its history, and also the statement that "There are two drawings after the same boy in the drawing-book of Leonardo in the Ambrosian Library at Milan." This I presume was the cause of its being attributed to that artist. On the same day was sold "Lot 1718. Bernardino Luini, 'The Duchess of Ferrara,'" which brought £336.

Hampton Wick. M. H. LAPIDGE.

Edgar A. Poe in England.

Sir,—Is Dr. Bulloch quite serious when he asks "Did Poe ever leave America?" The author of "The Raven" came to England with his foster parents (the Allans) in 1817, and received his first education at the school of Dr. John Bransby, a pedagogue of some reputation, in Stoke Newington. I have a picture of both school and schoolmaster before me as I write, and readers of Poe's "Tales" will find them described in the story "William Wilson." But it is improbable Poe crossed the Channel, as he returned to the States when ten years old.

Newcastle-on-Tyne. A. S. REEVE.

The First Index.

Sir,—It is not easy to say in what book an index first appeared. Seneca prepared notes of particular passages; Cicero uses the word index to signify the table of contents of a book; Erasmus supplied alphabetical indexes to many of his books. I refer your correspondent to H. B. Wheatley's "How to Make an Index" (Book-Lover's Library), the earlier chapters of which are historical.

Penarth. A. IVOR PARRY.

Sir,—The index, or concordance, of the Bible compiled by Hugo of St. Cher in 1247 would probably, and we hope certainly, take the well-deserved place of the first well-authorised index of any book.

A LOVER OF QUOTATIONS.

Hyde Park, W.

[E. M. Gullick (Pirbright) also replied.]

The Labrador Retriever.

From LORD LYELL.

Sir,—In reply to "J. L. (Lanark)" the Labrador retriever made its first appearance in this country upon the timber vessels from Labrador. Originally used as a watch dog, it has since become the most popular shooting dog.

Eton College. LYELL.

Sir,—Stonehenge, on "The Dog" (1872) gives the following:—

Labrador dogs, originally natives of Newfoundland, the smaller breed being crossed with the setter to make the retriever; hence Labrador retriever. The setter is commonly supposed to be the old spaniel crossed with the pointer.

Tottenham, N. NORA L. ROSE.

Blind Hedges.

Sir,—Captain Lyle's letter on the need for regular clipping of hedges to eliminate a prolific source of danger on the roads is extremely valuable. Neglect of hedges is for the most part due to thoughtlessness on the part of frontagers who do not realise that the roads of which they have an intimate knowledge can hold perils for unwary strangers, and when this is pointed out to them they usually hasten to remedy the fault. If they do not, proceedings can be taken under the Highways Act, 1835, on the grounds that the road is prejudiced by the state of the hedge

Attention by highway authorities to such matters as hedges, the maintenance of footpaths, and similar relatively minor works does much to improve the safety of the roads.

London, S.W. WALLACE E. RICHE.

Shooting Thames Weirs.

Sir,—Mr F. S Thacker is right; but your reviewer need not be altogether wrong. Small boats and punts can go over the rollers, but launches and barges must have the weir "drawn" to pass up or down. When the weir is drawn small boats can still shoot the weir if they happen to be there at the right time. I have myself shot King's Weir and Medley Weir (the latter frequently) in the last few years. No doubt a film producer could arrange to have the weir drawn for the purpose; but if he was one of a party I saw filming the river last summer, the launch that carried them would not go over the rollers. Hart's and Medley weirs are the only two left now as King's and Eynsham have recently been superseded by locks.

Oxford. E. H. BINNEY.

Sir,—Mr Thacker is quite correct in his statement that there is a boat slide at Eaton Weir. This, however, is only large enough to take a skiff or dinghy. When I filmed the picture in question last August, I photographed a motor-boat actually "shooting the weir"—the only passage possible for a boat of that size.

Twickenham. HUGH MARE.

"A Ha'porth of Tar."

Sir,—Whether the "sheep" or the "ship" would be spoiled for want of tar is easily settled on chronological grounds. In 1771, in Francis Gentleman's "The Tobacconist," is the following:—

Ay, ay, what, mar the sheep for a halfpenny-worth of tar?

The first mention in print of the "ship" in the proverb is in 1832, in W. Carew Hazlitt's "English Proverbs," where it reads:—

To spoil the ship for a halfpenny-worth of tar.

Doubtless it had taken this form in verbal use earlier than 1882, but the "sheep" is obviously the original form.

Camberley. W. R. DAVIES.

"The Brooding Earth."

Sir,—In answer to Mr. D. G. Stephens, the author of "The Brooding Earth" was Arthur Shearly Cripps, of Wreningham, Mashonaland, who seems to have worked there under the late Bishop Powell.

He wrote, also, a most delightful little book, "Magic Casements," stories of England in war-time. I shall be delighted to lend it to your correspondent if he wishes. Possibly Messrs. Duckworth and Co., Mr. Cripps's publishers, know whether he is alive and where.

HILDA WILSON.

Hawthorn, Worplesdon Road, Guildford.

[G. F Wilson (Kew Gardens), Lucy F Cripps (Putney Hospital, S.W.), and Reader (Battersea) also reply to this query.]

Public Entertainers.

Sir,—I was greatly interested in Mr. E. V. Lucas's reference to Corney Grain in your issue of January 19, because in my schoolboy days the German Reeds' entertainment was the only form of theatrical performance I was allowed to attend, and I well remember how impossible I thought it that anyone could be funnier than Corney Grain. Later on, during that period of my Varsity career when I was musical director of the Cambridge University A.D.C., he sometimes assisted us at our concerts in the little theatre in Park Street—if my recollection serves me he was an honorary member of the club—and I still held to my original opinion. In those days an animated controversy raged as to whether George Grossmith or Corney Grain was the finer performer, and I always plumped—the correct word to use, I think, in consideration of Corney Grain's ample proportions—for him.

Mr. Lucas is right in thinking that he never danced—at least, I never saw him do so. His nearest approach to it was when in singing the chorus of "The Himprovisatore" (pronounced "Himprovisitaw") he bounced vigorously up and down on the piano-stool while he literally bellowed out the final lines of that rollicking skit. Needless to say, he wrote the words and music of it himself, and next to the "Choir Boy and Polka" it is the one of his songs of which I entertain the most vivid recollection.

Cimiez, Nice. DOUGLAS TIMINS.

Sir,—I read Lord Cushendun's letter in the SUNDAY TIMES with interest not unmixed with amazement to hear that Clifford Harrison had ever been grouped with Corney Grain and other "funny men" as an 'entertainer." Clifford Harrison was a man of vast culture. His public work was a thing of matchless beauty His programmes covered a range of all that is best in English literature, and those whose good fortune it was to hear his wondrous recitations to music (almost always of his own composition) can never forget them. Each year he gave a series of recitals at Steinway Hall, which was always packed, not, as Lord Cushendun says, with "a rather distinguished audience," but with the *crème de la crème* of cultured and aristocratic society.

Clifford Harrison published two books, "In Leisure Hours" Poems (Kegan Paul, 1887), and "Stray Records" (Bentley, 1893); in both the man and the beauty of his character stand revealed.

Streatham Hill. CECIL CROFTON.

Sir,—The interesting correspondence in the SUNDAY TIMES under this heading will recall to many of your older readers the name of Harry Fragson, who died in very tragic circumstances in (I think) 1909. To my mind Fragson was the most original and finished artist of his type who ever appeared before the public, and I can go back very many years before his day. Fragson wrote all his own songs, and although he will best be remembered as a player of tuneful ditties, he was an exceedingly clever pianist, and in his leisure time delighted his friends by his excellent rendering of the works of the great masters.

I believe he first appeared in London at Drury Lane in pantomime during Arthur Collins's management there, but he quickly became a great favourite with London audiences, and for years was one of the biggest "draws" at the old Tivoli, the Oxford, and the Empire. I happen to know that at one of the old music-halls named he appeared for three years continuously.

Chelsea, S.W. WM. H. COLLIN.

[Letters also received from H. D'Arcy Hart, (Pembridge Gardens, W.), John Watson (York), L. F. Everest (Belsize Park Gardens, N.W.), Leopold Grahame (St. John's Wood), E. P. Smart (Brixton), Herbert R. Fosberry (Clapham), and F. B. J. Sharp (Savage Club).]

"Shakespeare" and St. Albans.

From LORD SYDENHAM OF COMBE.

Sir,—I fear your correspondents have failed to understand my object, which was only to show that there is indisputable evidence that "Shakespeare," or "Shake-speare," knew St. Albans, Gray's Inn, and York House, but either did not know, or thought it not worth while to mention, the place where he is said to have been born and to have passed most of his life.

Everyone knows that the authenticity of "Henry VI." has been questioned, although Dr. Johnson asserted that "The diction, the versification, and the figures are Shakespeare's," and far greater authorities than myself hold that parts of these three plays at least are undoubtedly Shakespearean.

The period being that of the Wars of the Roses, the author might naturally, though not necessarily, introduce St. Albans; but many other allusions to this historic spot are not thus explained. Nor is it clear how the actor could know the local story of the blind man who received sight, which is worked into an important episode in "Henry VI," or why he alluded to Stony Stratford, a Buckinghamshire village very far—in those days—from his ancestral home.

The "distinguished member of Gray's Inn" to whom Mr. G. Crosse refers would have every reason not to seek an opportunity "for glorifying that honourable society" in this connection, but might have wished to put on record his knowledge of the locality.

Of course, *anything* can be ascribed to the "authorities" the actor, who left no books or literary property, may be imagined to have consulted; but it is at least clear that he made free use of Bacon's private notebook, and he must, apparently, have arranged with the latter to drop "Henry VII." out of his series of historical plays. I note that Captain Weatherhead and Mr. Crosse discreetly shy at York House in "Henry VIII.," a play obviously unconnected with Shakespeare and containing strong evidence of having been written after Bacon's fall, which occurred five years after the actor's death, and could not, therefore, have been "found in his authorities."

Onslow Square, S.W. SYDENHAM.

"Dulce Domum."

Sir,—At Temple Grove, one of the oldest preparatory schools in England, our breaking-up chant in the late seventies differed slightly from the version given. It went:—

Omne bene
Sine pœna
Tempus est ludendi
Venit hora
Absque mora
Libros deponendi.
Quomodo vales
Mi sodalis (but we elided the final s's)
Visne edere pomum,
Si non vis Mirabilis
Dulce redire domum.
Domum domum, dulce domum.
Domum domum felix. (bis)

We huddled into a fives court to sing it. In a letter of George Selwyn's—1770 or so, but I cannot give the reference—there is a clear reference to this ditty in his account of a visit paid to a boy at a preparatory school.

The Athenæum. G. S. STREET.

Sir,—The version of "Omne bene" quoted by your correspondent, is still sung regularly at at least one private school, though it has been gradually added to, and is now considerably longer than that quoted by the Rev. W. Farrer. The first six lines are quoted by Washington Irving in a chapter heading of "Old Christmas," and must be of considerable antiquity Like every traditional song, it has clearly been enlarged, and, in some places, corrupted in the course of time; it would be an interesting subject now for the textual critic. The version I allude to runs as follows:—

Omne bene
Sine pœaa
Tempus est ludendi:
Venit hora
Absque mora
Libros deponendi.
Quomodo vales mi sodales
Visne edere pomum?
Si non vis mirabile est
Dulce adire domum
Domum domum dulce domum,
Domum domum felix,
Domum domum, dulce domum
Domum domum felix.
Horum scorum scantiorum
Harum scarum ibo.
Rag tag willy willy wag,
Hic haec hoc mentibo
Jolly good song and jolly well sung,
And jolly companions everyone.
Holloa boys, holloa boys,
This is the day
Holloa boys holloa boys,
Hip hip hurrah!

New College, Oxford. J. C. L. S

The Three Kings of Cologne.

From SIR E. WALLIS BUDGE.

Sir,—In reply to "H. C. (Kensington)," the "Three Kings of Cologne," whose gorgeous shrine decorated with gold and many varieties of semi-precious stones stands in one of the side chapels of the glorious Gothic Cathedral of Cologne, were the three, or three of the, wise men or Magi who went to Jerusalem to adore the Infant Christ. The current tradition says that Frederick I. (Barbarossa) brought their bones from Milan in 1162 and had them buried in Cologne Cathedral, but how their relics reached Milan is not clear According to the "Book of the Bee" (chap. 39) the Magi were twelve in number; four brought gold, four brought frankincense, and four brought myrrh. The "Book of the Cave of Treasures" (Fol. 40) says that the wise men were Magi of the Chaldeans, and that two years before Christ was born they learned from their sacred book, "The Revelation of Nimrod," that he was to be born in the West. The star which appeared to them had within it a maiden carrying a child with a crown on his head. The omens which they derived from the Malwâshê or Signs of the Zodiac gave them further information. Their gifts were symbolic—gold because the Child was a king, myrrh because he was a physician, and frankincense because he was a priest. The names of the Twelve Magi, who were Persian kings, were: Zarwândâd, Hôrmizdâd, Gûshnâsâph, Arshakh, Zarwândâd, son of Warzwâd, Izyâhô, Artakhshisht, Ashtônabôdan, Mêhârôk, Ahshîresh, Sardâlâh, and Merôdâch.

The texts which reduce the number of the Magi to three give their names as Hôrmizdâdh, King of Kings, Izgarad (Yazdegerd), King of Sâbhâ, and Pêrôzdâdh, King of Sheba in the East. The "Book of Adam" calls them Hor, King of Persia, Basantar, King of Saba, and Karsandas, King of the East. The names given to the three Magi in modern works are Caspar, Melchior and Baltazar. Some authorities think that the number three applied to the Magi is symbolic, and perhaps derived from classical mythology where we meet with the three Fates, the three Furies, the three Graces, etc. Many legends about the gifts of the Magi have grown up, not the least curious being that which says that Melchior offered to Christ thirty pieces of gold which had been made by Terah for his son Abraham. They came into the possession of Joseph, who paid them to Pharaoh for the embalmment of his father Jacob. Pharaoh bought spices with them in Sheba, and the Queen of Sheba gave them to Solomon, who decorated the door of the temple with them. Nebuchadnezzar II took them to Babylon and gave them to some Persian hostages he was releasing. And so they got to Persia. ("Book of the Bee," chap 34; Sandys, Christmas Carols, London, 1883, p. lxxxiii foll.)

E. A. WALLIS BUDGE.

Bloomsbury Street, W.C.

Sir,—The following lines from Reade's "The Cloister and the Hearth" will answer "H. C.'s" question:—

And therein (Cologne Minster), but in their own chapel, lie the three Kings that brought gifts to our Lord, Melchior gold, and Gaspar frankincense, and Balthasar, the black King, he brought myrrh.

Northam. (N. Devon). C. F. M.

[Replies have also been received from A. Kemp Welch (Kensington Gate W.), Muriel Hamilton-Scott (Portsdown Road, W.), Margaret E. Marshall (Southampton), A Lover of Quotations (Hyde Park, W.), James Strong (Trowbridge), Miss Benstead (Cheltenham), E. M. Gullick (Pirbright), E. H. (Cologne), and F W. D'Evelyn (Budleigh Salterton).]

Mr. Baldwin and Heine.

Sir,—Mr. Baldwin's mistake in quoting Goethe as saying that Heine "lacked love," whereas it was of Platen that he said it, which Mr. R. Rosen corrected in your issue of January 26, may be due to his having followed Matthew Arnold, who made that mistake at least twice in his life. In his poem "Heine's Grave" he wrote, apostrophising Heine:—

But it was thou—I think
Surely it was—that bard
Unnamed, who, Goethe said,
Had every other gift, but wanted love.

And at the end of his essay on "Heinrich Heine" in "Essays in Criticism" (First Series) he says:—

Goethe says that he was deficient in love.

Arnold's mistake has recently been pointed out by Mr. Hugh Kingsmill in his "Matthew Arnold," and by Mr. J. B. Orrick in "Matthew Arnold and Goethe."

Gower Street, W.C. ALAN HARRIS.

Sir,—No doubt Mr. Baldwin had in mind Matthew Arnold's lines on Heine:—

Who, as Goethe said,
Had every other gift, but wanted love.

It has often been pointed out that Arnold was wrong in thinking that Goethe referred to Heine; but your correspondent may remember a poem addressed by Heine to the then King of Prussia (beginning, I think, "Kennst du die Hölle des Dante nicht?"), in which he threatens the King with immurement in a "poet's hell," such as that to which Dante consigned his enemies—and some of his friends—and from which, as Heine says, no saviour will ever deliver those whom the poet has condemned In this instance Heine seems himself to provide an example of the difficulty of escape from a poet's hell.

Rendlesham Road, E. J. F. CLAYTON.

"The —— that was ——."

From SIR RICHARD BARNETT.

Sir,—May I be allowed to draw your attention to a literary solecism which is spreading like an epidemic among our English authors? When Edgar Allan Poe apostrophised—

The glory that was Greece
And the grandeur that was Rome,

he little knew the trouble he was going to cause. I have lately read two stories, the recent work of two of our most elegant novelists. Wild horses shall not drag from me their names, but I think it my duty to catalogue with all sadness and deference their infirmities.

From novel No. 1:—

The physically delicate plant that was Perella.
The sweet and gentle soul that was Silvester Gayton.
The delicate, elfin thing that was Perella.

From novel No 2—

The steaming stewpan that was London.
The thing that had been Hazzard.
The London that was Christopher.
The very pallid, hook-nosed face that was Dr. Platner's.
A feeling of youthfulness and adventure that were somehow Ruth.
The warm, soft fragrance that was woman.
The new man who was Hazzard.

Mr. Editor, this thing has increased, is increasing, and ought to be diminished Only think, if the infection, instead of being confined to a few writers of distinction, were to attack the industrialists of letters, the sound of whose mass production is gone out into all lands, while their books are read from China to Peru! Under such conditions this pretty little *feu d'artifice*, now harmless as the chicken-pox, might spread like *cholera morbus* and devastate the literature of two continents.

RICHARD BARNETT.

Park Village West, N.W.

Readers' Queries.

[The number of readers queries that reach us is now so great that a small proportion only can be published, and we endeavour, therefore, to make a selection of those of most general interest.]

Can one of your readers tell an invalid with a special interest in wood fires where to find a poem in praise of ash wood as fuel?—L. KNOTT (Marple).

Could any of your readers explain the title or story of the celebrated picture "Pelagia and Philammon," by Arthur Hacker, R.A., now in the possession of the Walker Art Gallery, Liverpool?—F. C. HOLLIDAY (Harrogate)

Will a fellow reader give me information regarding a regiment known as Baron Hompesch's Hussars? I am told that they served in Ireland in 1798 and afterwards under Sir Ralph Abercrombie in Egypt.—J. HAWKSLEY (Southsea).

Will one of your readers be so kind as to give the author of the following lines?—

This world is but a fleeting show
For man's illusions given—
The smiles of joy, the tears of woe,
Deceitful shine, deceitful flow—
There's nothing true but heaven.

—M. C. (Isle of Wight).

REGIMENTAL TRADITIONS.

Further correspondence on this subject is unavoidably held over.

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THE WEEK AT WESTMINSTER.

POOR DEBATES.

BELLIGERENT RIGHTS.

By A STUDENT OF POLITICS.

When on Government business the House of Commons debates are becoming less and less an argument between people who are trying to persuade each other and more and more a series of manifestos to the electorate. The essence of Parliamentary as distinguished from platform oratory is a certain frankness and intimacy, but members are no longer frank on the big questions of the day. They are thinking all the time of the electorate and how much it is safe to let them know about things.

There was a debate last Monday, the nominal subject of which was the optional clause, but really about belligerent rights and whether we ought to consent ever to submit them to arbitration. It was conducted throughout like a game of hide and seek. Mr. Henderson talked moralising generalities about arbitration, Sir Austen Chamberlain was so mysterious that few of his hearers and still fewer of his readers can have had much idea of what he was driving at; and only Sir Herbert Samuel of the early speakers spoke with any pretence of directness. Sir William Mitchell-Thomson and the Attorney-General, at the end of the debate, were more open, but even they were alluding to rather than discussing the real idea which underlay the debate, which was the conflict between the British and the Continental theories of belligerent blockade—in fact, the freedom of the seas. Because this phrase is supposed to have bad associations in the popular mind, it must not be used nor must the real subject matter of debate be avowed. But the Commons, which ought to be ventilating subjects like these, maintains an artificial fog for fear that the public should take alarm. In the result the Commons is becoming the last place in which a lead is given on any of the major subjects affecting the Government's policy.

THE CANAL CHILDREN.

On private members motions the Commons are more interesting because so much franker. There was a capital debate on Friday, for example, on a Bill to send fathers who live in canal boats to jail unless they turn their children away from home. Lord Eustace Percy spoke from his heart in indignant protest against the Bill, and made probably his best speech for at least a couple of years. Nearly everyone else spoke above his usual form on the subject, and the reason was that the issue was more or less open, and no one was embarrassing either a party or the Government by what he said.

The growing weakness of the House of Commons is its exaggerated sense of party responsibility and loyalty, and the habit that members have of talking over each other's heads to the world outside. There is not enough individuality; except on minor and non-party matters members are afraid to be themselves or to try to persuade each other. The party machine is triumphant, and imposes its machine-made views. For freedom and candour of ideas on subjects that are within Government or party policy you have to go outside the Commons.

EMPIRE FREE TRADE.

On two days last week we might have had great debate, but on both debate was disappointing. Mr. Lloyd George made one of the cleverest and most amusing destructive speeches that even he has ever made on the motion on so-called "Empire Free Trade." He is not strengthening his hold on his party; he seems to become more of a free lance every time he speaks. But he has recovered all his old debating power, and every other speech of his nowadays is a Parliamentary event. Devastating as his satire was, he still managed somehow to leave the impression that he was not wholly unsympathetic to the subject of his ridicule. But the debate as a whole was a poor performance.

A POOR FIGHT.

No better was the debate on the Lords' amendments to the Unemployment Insurance Bill. Here the Lords had supplied the Conservative Party in the Commons with first-rate material for a fight, but the principal leaders were ostentatiously absent. The opposition to the Government was left to junior leaders without apparent inspiration from the chiefs of the party, and though they did their best it must be discouraging to have to keep up the show of great vigour in attack without support from their chiefs.

The general impression left by the debates this month is one of indecision and hesitation in the supreme counsels of the Conservative Party; one would have to go a long way back to find a parallel to two such chances being missed as were afforded by the debates on Empire Free Trade and the Lords' amendments.

MEN, WOMEN, AND MEMORIES.

THE EX-DICTATOR—VISCOUNT SUMNER AND HIS SUCCESSOR—EMMY DESTINN—THE NORTH AMERICAN LANGUAGE.

By ATTICUS.

Whatever verdict history may eventually pronounce on the public career of General Primo de Rivera, it will have to give him credit for industry and honesty. He has worked hard and lived simply, like the other modern dictators. I believe that is true of Kemal Pasha; it certainly is of Mussolini who, with all the resources of Italy at his disposal, takes a salary which would hardly content a high official in the English Civil Service. I visited General Pangalos, the unfortunate ex-Dictator of Greece, during his short-lived tenure of power, and asked him if he took any precautions against attempts on his life. He told me that he was accustomed to walk about the streets of Athens in plain clothes, unattended and unguarded. General Primo did the same thing. He would go anywhere in Madrid, and talk, in his genial, friendly way to anybody. His days have been extremely laborious, and, like the late Marquess Curzon, he had relays of private secretaries, and tired them all out. He was often at his desk continuously from the early hours of the morning till a very late dinner. That meal was a good one; but otherwise the Marquess ate nothing during the day except a hasty sandwich, snatched at three o'clock in the midst of his papers.

UNPOLITICAL INDIA.

The Indian railway directorates have been trying to make India fashionable as a winter resort. I suppose many people are deterred from enjoying the scenery and pleasant cold-weather climate of the Peninsula by the fear of political disturbances. But the visitor will not see much of the Congress agitators. He may on the other hand witness strange and wonderful things if he goes to the right places. There is, for example, just now at Allahabad the Kumoh Mela, the great pilgrims' fair which is held every twelve years.

I found myself at one of these celebrations, and had an unforgettable experience. Some four million men and women of all the castes and tribes of Hinduism, are encamped in the sacred triangle by the Ganges, and they make a marvellously picturesque and variegated crowd. Everything that Hindu India has to show, from an elephant procession to a naked fakir swinging from a hook, is on view. If there are any disturbances they are not caused by political feeling but by rival bands of excited sectaries. And if you want to understand what Britain has done for India you should see a couple of young English officials, with a few Sikh policemen, keeping order among this gigantic and motley horde. But I don't think the tourist often goes to Allahabad, which is not one of the more famous show cities like Agra and Benares.

THE LEGAL NORTH.

By the retirement of Viscount Sumner and the appointment in his place of Mr. H. P. Macmillan, a great Lancashire jurist is succeeded by a brilliant Scottish advocate. What would our judicial bench do without its contingent from Scotland and the Palatine county? Lord Birkenhead, as everybody knows, was born in Lancashire; so was the Lord Chief Justice. Scotland will now be well represented among the Lords of Appeal. Lord Dunedin (the Rt. Hon. Andrew Graham Murray) is a North Briton; so is Lord Blanesburgh: so (by descent, at any rate), is Lord Thankerton. Lord Atkin has Irish and Australian affinities. But Lord Tomlin of Ash, the sixth member of the Court, belongs to Kent, which shows that it is still possible for a man to obtain high office even if he is only an Englishman from a Southern county.

Lord Sumner is 71, several years younger than Lord Darling, who since his retirement from the Bench has taken an active share in the debates of the House of Lords. It may be hoped that Lord Sumner will do likewise, for he could do much both to enliven and inform the Upper Chamber. His oratorical talent has been recognised ever since, as J. A. Hamilton, of Balliol, he was President of the Oxford Union, with a great reputation as a scholar, besides being something of an athlete, for he rowed in his college boat when it was somewhere near the head of the river. At the Bar he was chiefly engaged in those heavy commercial cases which demand lucid exposition rather than flamboyant rhetoric. His judgments from the Bench exhibit the same quality, as well as much finish and distinction of style. Whether Lord Sumner would have accepted a seat on The Hague Tribunal I do not know. But he should certainly have had the offer for he is admirably qualified to create a favourable impression upon foreign jurists by his learning and dignity, combined with a subtle and pleasant wit.

NINETEENTH CENTURY LONDON.

Bright young people, brought up to believe in the dullness and dowdiness of England in the days of Queen Victoria may alter their opinion if they read three recently published books of reminiscences. One is the third instalment of Sir William Hardman's Papers, which gives the recollections of a shrewd *viveur*, reproduced with much frankness. Another is the autobiography of Colonel A. M. Brookfield, who has family associations with the London of Thackeray, as well as with literature and the stage. He was a hard-working Member of Parliament, and an authority on military and agricultural matters, before he spent twenty years of his life as His Majesty's Consul at Dantzig and Savannah.

The third book is "The Gay Victorians," by that very lively social chronicler, Mr. Ralph Nevill, who assuredly did not find our Metropolis in the last century depressing. He sampled all its more amusing phases, including the distinctive entertainments of his mother, Lady Dorothy Nevill, that most delightful and unconventional of *grandes dames*. I once met the charming old lady, who looked like a little Dresden china shepherdess, at the booking-office of an underground railway station, on her way to an East End charitable institution in which she was interested. She took her ticket, counted her change, and walked off to the platform with the utmost calmness, declining any offer of assistance. She had probably just come from a luncheon party with a duchess, an ambassador, a couple of Cabinet Ministers, and the last new fashionable actress.

A VERY OBEDIENT SERVANT.

There is a discussion going on as to the conventional endings of our letters. Why should we call ourselves "Your obedient servant" when we are writing to somebody whom we have no intention of obeying? or "Yours sincerely" when we are perhaps obviously trying to deceive?

From my friend the late Sir George Robertson, who brilliantly defended the Indian frontier fort of Chitral, and wrote a book about the siege, I heard of a particularly flowery tag to a letter. He said that a Bengali clerk once wrote to him asking for an appointment. The application ended in this manner: "Hoping your honour will give ear to my humble petition, I conclude with the blessing of Almighty God, whom your honour closely resembles." "After this," added Sir George, "you need not try to flatter me by comparing me to Julius Cæsar or Napoleon."

"THESE UNITED STATES."

At the Naval Conference, where the delegates take precedence according to the initial letter of their countries, those from the United States come first. At all former international assemblies, they were lower down on the list according to the alphabetical order which put them under "U" in English and "E" (Etats Unis) in French. At St. James's Palace the Republic is officially "America." Perhaps some of the other States of the Western Hemisphere may object to this assumption. At the Hague Conference of 1907 I heard Mr. Choate describe himself in a speech as the representative of the American Republic. "Which American Republic?" asked the Brazilian envoy. "The United States, of course," replied Choate. "Ah," said the man from Brazil, "the honourable delegate means the North American Republic. There are other republics in America, and I represent one of them."

This Brazilian gentleman, a very clever lawyer and diplomatist, was rather fond of pulling Choate's stately leg. On one occasion, when Choate was in the midst of an eloquent discourse, he rose to point out that the orator was out of order. The protocol prescribed that delegates must address the Conference either in French or in their own tongue. "Well," snapped Choate, irritably, "I am speaking English, am I not?" "Possibly," responded the Brazilian, "but the honourable delegate comes from North America. He ought, therefore, to speak in the North American language. Of course, he may also use that of France," he added, blandly, knowing well that Choate's French accent was not exactly Parisian.

A BOHEMIAN GIRL.

Emmy Destinn's career on the London operatic stage was rather short but very brilliant. From 1902 till 1914 she was the most popular and accomplished of light sopranos, particularly in Italian opera. I never heard any rendering like hers of the heroines of "Madame Butterfly," "The Girl of the Golden West," and "Aïda." She could sing the earlier Wagner parts, too, though she had not the histrionic capacity or the expressive feeling required for the Wagnerian music-drama. But she was a fine artist with a voice of superb natural quality most carefully cultivated. The war fell heavily upon her. The Austrian authorities would not allow the Czech prima donna to leave Bohemia, and she was kept practically a prisoner on her estate, where she spent most of her later days till her premature death last week. She made a final reappearance eleven years ago at Covent Garden and in the Queen's Hall; and though her voice was not all it had been it was still glorious.

EDUCATION.*

"AT THE CROSS ROADS."

STANDARDISED MINDS.

By HAROLD COX.

Lord Eustace Percy, President of the Board of Education under the late Government, has just brought out a very useful little book* on educational problems. It has the supreme merit that it is a thought-compelling book. Throughout his pages Lord Eustace rightly insists that the purpose of education is to teach people to think, and the main theme of his book is that under the standardised system which has come into being in England, people are not taught to think. As he points out, in earlier years our then haphazard system, with all its defects, had at least the merit that it "left the school teacher free to work out the salvation of his pupils according to his own ideas and his own knowledge of their needs." The school teacher has now largely lost that freedom. He is becoming merely a cog in the gigantic wheel of standardised education. The book is specially concerned with the relationship of the universities to secondary schools and also to technical schools. One of the points pressed is that, as a result of the new system of examinations introduced by the Board of Education, boys begin to specialise for the University two years before leaving the secondary school. Lord Eustace contends that it would be better if specialisation were postponed till the boys have actually entered upon their University course. The multiplicity of examinations has the further disadvantage that it tends to discourage the individual boy in the personal search for knowledge. As Lord Eustace points out, ideas "are not always to be met with on beaten paths—whereas random wanderings among books may bring the student back to his special study with a new understanding of its meaning."

TEACH MEN TO THINK.

But random wandering is ruled out if the student has always to be thinking of pending examinations, with the result that the boy becomes little more than a listener to the lecturer, and students to-day come to the University "not to read for a degree, but to be lectured into one." Instead of leaving the student liberty to wander over a considerable area on the chance of finding a path for himself, "we have constructed metalled highroads for him from which only the exceptionally adventurous will wish to stray." Even from the point of view of obtaining employment, it is doubtful whether in the long run this is the right policy. Intelligent leaders of industry do not want boys or men who merely know a particular job and can go on doing that for all time. What they want to be supplied with is "boys who can learn and go on learning, and with men who can think and can be trusted to go on thinking."

As a matter of fact, as Lord Eustace rightly says, "the ultimate aim of all education is to teach men to think." Learning to think does not mean merely learning the facts about some particular subject; it means also acquiring the power to think about those facts. If once this power is acquired, it can be applied to other subjects as well. But there is little chance of the acquisition of this power of thought when the whole tendency of education is to concentrate on the need for passing repeated examinations. Yet that is almost inevitable in any standardised system of education. Another evil which is very apparent in our present educational system is that it creates, in Lord Eustace's words, "institutions to feed upon themselves." He particularly points to the case of technical colleges, and says they have developed a mentality which seems to make them believe that their main purpose is to train technical teachers, and for this reason practical leaders of industry feel some lack of confidence in technical colleges.

LIFE IN THE OPEN.

More generally a standardised system of education has already developed among educational enthusiasts a desire to extend that standardisation in every possible direction. A particular illustration is furnished by the Bill, which passed its second reading last week, for compelling canal-boat children to abandon their present happy lives with their own parents on the canal boats, so that they may all be sent to the standardised elementary schools. These enthusiasts for a State system of education, controlled by State-trained teachers, ignore the fact that quite often a father and mother can give a better human education to their own children than the children can get in a school class.

In the case of the canal-boat children much interesting evidence on this subject has already been brought before the public. The open-air life that these children lead in their moving homes produces a finer type of child than is normally to be found in the slums, and the children obtain from that life a wider and more valuable outlook than they would pick up in a school class. The same consideration applies to a large extent to agricultural life. Persons who are familiar with agricultural labourers know that in many ways the labourer, whose capacity for reading and writing is not very great, has a considerable capacity for thinking, and will very often take a much sounder view of any problem submitted to him than the urbanised worker. The explanation is that the farm labourer's life in the open has taught him daily to see the relationship between cause and effect, and thus to realise the facts of life. This, incidentally, is a strong argument for leaving parents free in England, as they are in other countries, to keep their children at home if they wish to do so until a later age than 5.

SCHOLARSHIPS OVERDONE.

A detailed illustration which Lord Eustace gives of the failure of our educational system is to be found in his statement that the Republic of Esthonia, which has lately adopted English as a compulsory language, finds it impossible to get a sufficient supply of English teachers to teach that language to Esthonian children. Even more humiliating is the fact that in Argentine universities instruction in English is given through the medium of American professors. One of the troubles of our educational system is that to a large extent it has been based on the political dream that it is possible to provide equal opportunities for everybody. That aid should be given wherever possible to enable a bright boy in the poorer classes to move upwards everyone agrees, and with this end in view in previous generations, private people left large sums to found scholarships for promising youths. We have gone on extending the scholarship system with State aid until it seems to be outdoing itself. The idea now seems to be that the State ought to spend unlimited millions in making university education available for every working man. The final result would be, not that the status of working men as a body would be greatly improved, but that the quality of education would decline. It is impossible to raise all to the top, and, while aiming at that impossibility, we may easily succeed in bringing all down to one low level.

* "Education at the Crossroads." By Lord Eustace Percy, M.P. (Evans Brothers. 5s.)

"THE TOWN": MEN AND INTIMACIES.

By AUTOLYCUS.

Viscount Gladstone, whose illness is causing anxiety, has been fortunate in inheriting the sound health which was so great an asset to his immortal father. When ills did afflict him the G.O.M. bore them with a stoical resignation which he expected others to emulate. Once, when Lord Gladstone was a lad, he had a severe bout of toothache, and went to his father for sympathy and advice. Said the statesman genially, "Think no more about it my boy, but to-morrow go and have it out."

***

The announcement on Friday of the engagement of Sir Thomas Devitt to Miss Joan Freemantle did not come as a great surprise to their numerous friends, and I met them both earlier in the week "trying out" a new and powerful-looking car by driving rapidly round and round Berkeley Square. Sir Thomas, who is 27, and succeeded his grandfather some seven years ago, is in the Seaforth Highlanders; but he is best known for his achievements as a Rugby International, having represented England against Ireland and France, and also against Wales and New South Wales. About a year ago he broke his arm in two places while playing for Blackheath against Cambridge. Miss Joan Freemantle, who is vivacious and attractive, is very clever at designing many of her own dresses, and she is now the guest of honour at the house party assembled this week-end at Sir Thomas's place at Ware.

***

Paris is looking forward to welcoming the Lord Mayor of London, his Sheriffs and their ladies on Ascension Day. On the morning of May 29 London's Lord Mayor, together with the representatives of York, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle, Bradford, and many other British cities and towns, are to be received at the Elysée by the President of the French Republic. The arrangements are being made by Lord Derby and the United Associations of Great Britain and France. Already the replies show that this will be the most representative gathering of British Municipal leaders ever assembled in Paris.

***

There appears to be a definite revival of the once almost invariable custom of a bridegroom giving a bachelor dinner on the eve of his wedding, which was temporarily eclipsed by a few much-advertised parties given by brides to their girl friends. Nowadays, however, the bridegroom is more often the chief guest than the host, and the whole party often drops in for an hour or so at a revue or musical comedy, ostensibly to distract the victim from the ordeal before him! To-morrow night a special dinner is being given at the Embassy to Mr. "Ronnie" Morgan and to all those who are to act as ushers at his wedding the following day to Miss Joan Bromley-Davenport. The best man is to be the host on this occasion, but, by way of compensation, he will not have to entertain the retinue of seven bridesmaids after the wedding (unless it be to a milk and biscuit supper), since they are all small children.

***

Lord Saye and Sele, who has been offered the office of High Steward of Oxford University, is the holder of a barony which dates from the time of Henry IV., and has a claim, not so far allowed, to hereditary right in one of the most coveted of ancient offices, the Wardenship of the Cinque Ports. William the Conqueror conferred the post of Constable of Dover Castle and Warden of the Cinque Ports upon his kinsman John Fiennes and his heirs for ever, but the honour was lost to the family on the death of the second Lord Saye and Sele. In the time of Charles I. Parliament was petitioned for the restoration of the hereditary dignity, but it was refused.

***

At the annual reunion dinner of a famous public school the other evening a speaker recalled end-of-term prize-givings, which a well-known educational authority capped with this story. A young and rather raw pupil at a Glasgow school returned home from the "breaking-up" ceremony in an obviously depressed state of mind. On being asked if he had won any prizes, he confessed that he had just missed one worth half a guinea through making an error of a halfpenny in a mental arithmetic sum. There was a disappointed silence in the family circle for a few minutes, and then his mother arose, solemnly fetched her purse, and remarked, "Sooner than our Angus should lose a ten and sixpenny prize all for the sake of a halfpenny, I'll pay it myself. Here you are, and now run back and fetch the prize."

***

Memories of schoolboy struggles with the classics revived in many of us whilst the setting was being made ready for the Greek frieze at Lady Stavridi's Golden Fleece ball last week, for black wooden stands were produced, each one inscribed in Greek characters with the name of the goddess or heroine who was about to occupy it. Loveliest and most statuesque of all was Miss Diana Wynyard as Ariadne, draped in sweeping robes of deepest black; whilst Lady Newnes was imposing as Pallas Athene. The effect of the frieze was somewhat marred owing to it being impossible to arrange a stage or proper lighting, so that the audience stood, closely packed together, up to within a few feet of the performers. So great was the crowd that the band had to be "amplified" into three ballrooms, and the house next door, which luckily happened to be empty, was taken and used for the supper. This included all sorts of Greek dishes and wines that formed a pleasant variation from the unchanging and unimaginative supper with which one is confronted with such deadly persistence by every caterer and hotel.

***

So popular is the present tremendous "boom" in ice-skating that new clubs and rinks constantly spring up mushroom-like overnight; yet they are all crowded with enthusiasts in every stage of proficiency, from the first frenzied clutchings at the side-rails—known as "harp playing"—to the most dazzling figure-cutting and waltzing. The rival merits of the Grosvenor House and the Grosvenor Road Club appear to be a topic of all-absorbing interest just now, and the latter was, of course, started by Mr. and Mrs. Stephen Courtauld, who are there almost every day and entertain there a great deal. At a luncheon party on Friday in the huge glass cage-like enclosure above the rink, Mr. Ivo Ashworth, who runs the social side of the club, told me about some of the amusing disguises being made ready for the special ice carnival he is getting up, at which some sport other than golf or swimming has to be represented. One well-known woman and keen skater is coming as a bicyclist of the very early Battersea Park days, in the first known version of "plus fours" of violent tweeds, with Norfolk jacket, high-necked blouse and a jaunty little straw hat perched precariously on a large chignon made out of her own shorn tresses.

***

Humiliating as it is to have to admit it, there is no gainsaying the fact that food and figures (physical, and not numeral, of course) play a very important part in general conversation nowadays. At dinner parties the topics of diets and skipping, or other exercises, have completely ousted the once-general one of the weather. In fact, "when in doubt, talk food and slimming," is a pretty safe motto at the moment. Lunching the other day at a haunt that has leapt meteor-like into popular favour, I was amused—though not particularly flattered—at being proferred a menu specially concocted for us by no less an expert than Signor Quaglino, which was warranted "not to cause any ill effects on the modern lady or gentleman's figure"! We bravely took his word for it, and time and the bathroom scales alone will show whether we were wise, or not.

***

Sir Arthur Evans, who excavated the prehistoric palace of Knossos, now lives on Boar's Hill, above Oxford. It is largely owing to him that eighty-six acres have been secured so that the public may enjoy the views commemorated in Matthew Arnold's "Thyrsis" and "The Scholar Gypsy." Sir Arthur has erected on the crest of the hill a mound from which it is possible to see on a clear day the Berkshire Downs, the Chilterns, the Dorchester Clumps, a stretch of the Thames Valley, and the towers and spires of Oxford. He has planted part of the site with wild cherry and with arbutus and ilex from the West of Ireland.

If you succeed in beating your swords into ploughshares, are you quite certain you will be able to find work for your ploughshares?—*Augustine Birrell.*

The U.S. spent 90,000,000 dollars for chewing gum in 1929, according to a statistician. And got plenty of action for its money, if you ask us.—*Thomaston Times.*

We want friendship and co-operation with the United States, but it must be for no exclusive national arrangement. It must be for some matter of world policy.—*Lord Grey of Fallodon.*

The Postmaster-General should not be a member of the Cabinet, but the most able business man in the country, who should have a free hand to run that business.—*Lord Wolmer.*

Poverty has little to do with the serious crime of this country. The chief causes are to be found in the fundamental faults of human nature—lust, greed, anger, and jealousy.—*Mr. Justice McCardie.*

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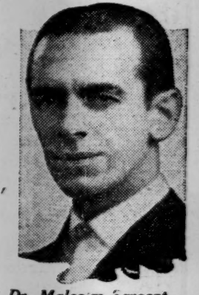
What they say—



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Theatres continued on page 6.

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DEATH.

AITKEN.—On January 31, at 32, Victoria Road, W.8, peacefully, after a long illness, Thomas Aitken, in his 79th year. Funeral at Dorking Cemetery to-morrow (Monday) at 3 p.m.

Sunday Times

AN INDEPENDENT JOURNAL
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SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 1930.

NOT TOO FAST!

THE Naval Conference is getting down to business slowly. Nations are still manœuvring for position, and the delegates are yet in the birth-pangs of producing an agenda. Meanwhile the British Government has given rapid and rather startling evidence of its sincerity and zeal by cancelling two more cruisers. Yesterday's *Daily Telegraph* revealed that the two cruisers referred to by Mr. ALEXANDER in his recent statement in Parliament are additional cancellations to those previously announced. The British Government has cancelled four cruisers—three large and one smaller—within a week.

Here, at all events, is ample proof that Great Britain means business. She is showing that where there's a will there's a way. Whether the way chosen is the best way possible is open to some doubt. As our Naval Correspondent makes clear, the cancellation of these cruisers is not a direct menace to our maritime safety: it really means only the slowing down of the rate of replacement, and there will be time, if circumstances demand it, to speed up the programme again between now and the date when existing ships become obsolescent. But there is another and more important consideration from the point of view of the discussions now proceeding. Is the Government giving away too much at the beginning? Is it possibly endangering its tactical position, not at sea, but in the Conference room, by going ahead too fast and being left at a disadvantage?

Already Mr. MACDONALD has agreed with Mr. HOOVER to reduce the British cruiser minimum from seventy ships to fifty. That is a drastic reduction. The Government has justified it by reference to the KELLOGG Pact, explaining that the international political situation has been so improved by this instrument that Britain can afford to cut down her naval strength. There is a good deal of validity in this argument, but whether the Pact as it stands has really a restraining power sufficient to justify so big a cut is a question on which opinions differ. Cruisers mean more to Britain than to any other naval Power by reason of our far-flung possessions. Cruisers are essential guarantees of our communications, and there are those who would prefer to see the work of reduction concentrated more attentively on the battleship.

We do not know the full value of the Pact until the other delegations have shown their hands. It is creditable to put all our cards on the table, but it would look less well if, through precipitancy, we were subsequently compelled to pick some of them up again. In a striking phrase in his opening speech to the Conference, Mr. MACDONALD referred to the peculiar position in which, by tradition and by necessity, the British people are placed with regard to the sea. "We are the sea," he said; and he went on to declare that, deep as was the will of the British nation to disarm, it could not do so in advance of other Powers. What Britain does, he implied and it is the truth—must depend on what others do. We do not blame him for taking every possible step consistent with safety to give practical proof of our sincerity. But in his desire to do that, and to get real success out of the Conference, he must beware lest he forget his own words. These are early days. Full agreement is highly desirable, and agreement in some degree is almost certain; but agreement reached at the price of security would be far worse than no agreement at all.

BUDGET PROSPECTS.

MR. SNOWDEN'S observations at Leeds on finance and the coming Budget make interesting reading. Unless receipts look up very considerably in the next two months, said the CHANCELLOR, last year's estimates will not be realised. This situation is due, he declares—with the dismal satisfaction of the prophet of doom justified—to the fact that these estimates were based on too optimistic reckonings. The end of the Stock Exchange boom has dried up the yield from stamp duties; the yield from estate duties has also not come up to expectations. And so, in effect says Mr. SNOWDEN, when April comes the taxpayer will be faced with a problem brought into existence by the over-sanguine temperament of the late CHANCELLOR.

The curious thing is that when he turns to his own task for the coming financial year Mr. SNOWDEN falls into precisely the same error. Recent legislation will impose, he said, an additional burden on the Exchequer of about eight and a-half millions this year and fourteen millions next. But, he added, "I hope there may be such an improvement of trade, resulting in a reduction of unemployment, as will make it unnecessary to spend the full amount we have provided for next year." The same vague optimism that he condemns in his predecessor! How far is it justified?

If we may judge from the record of the Government to date we should say it is not justified at all. Mr. SNOWDEN declares with his hand on his heart that the Government's main consideration is that the State shall use all its power to help the restoration and increase the prosperity of industry. If that is its main consideration, it is going a strange way about it. So far it has done exactly nothing to restore industry, while, by increasing expenditure which in the end industry must supply, it has done a good deal to hinder it. Mr. SNOWDEN administered a tart rebuke to the bank chairmen for their "very unintelligent observations." Mr. SNOWDEN has an unenviable gift in this direction. He might give the bankers credit for a little knowledge of economics; in his heart he must realise that, however strong may be his own expressed desire not to sanction any expenditure which he does not believe to be "imperatively necessary," he has his colleagues to reckon with, and they have their extremists. The battle he must fight with Socialistic theories is bound to be a losing battle. Mr. SNOWDEN complains that what the country needs is more pluck. The country has plenty of pluck: what it wants is opportunity. Is Mr. SNOWDEN going to kill the geese that lay the golden eggs?

EXIT THE DICTATOR.

GENERAL PRIMO DE RIVERA must by now realise the truth of NAPOLEON'S saying that you can do anything with bayonets except sit on them. It was by means of bayonets that he established his dictatorship, and with their glint in the background he was able to impose his will on the Spanish people. One drawback about bayonets is that they fail to provide a safety valve, and the Latin races even more than our own must find some means for getting rid of their pent-up feelings. General PRIMO seems to have overlooked this most important fact. Even soldiers have their opinions, and it has been clear for some time that the Spanish soldiery were restive. It may have been a tactical blunder for General PRIMO to consult the Army as to his position, but he was in a great difficulty no matter which way he turned. His action deprived him of the confidence of the KING, without strengthening his hold on the Army, and so he has ended an intolerable situation by resigning.

By a strange turn of the wheel of fortune, General BERENGUER, who was imprisoned for criticising the late Dictator, has become his successor. The situation is still rather obscure, and time only will show whether he is able to provide Spain with what she most needs—a clean, honest, stable Government. No one disputes the fact that the DICTATOR brought many improvements to his country, but a thorough reform of the evils of centuries is not easy. An insurmountable difficulty in Spain is the absence of public opinion, and it must be said that during the Dictatorship nothing was done to remedy this grave defect. Illiteracy in Spain, as indeed in any country, makes political development very difficult. Uneducated people are always an easy prey for unscrupulous agitators, and with the repressive measures that were applied in Spain it was easy to convince these poor people that all their ills were due to the Dictatorship. Responsibility can only flow from freedom. Spain has now an opportunity of starting on a fresh career, but if she is to succeed—and the British people earnestly desire she should succeed—the abuses of the past and the absolutism of recent years must give place to a policy based on true and enlightened patriotism.

DEMOCRACY IN ACTION.

CONSIDERATIONS of political philosophy arising out of the Bill compulsorily to remove children from barges—which passed its second reading in the House of Commons on Friday would provide scope for the gifts of a JOHN STUART MILL. The more democratic a State becomes, the more, it seems, is it prone to interfere in the lives of individuals. Granted that children on barges do not get as good or consistent an education as might be desired; granted that the State has assumed the function of educational dictator, and that the scheme has proved a success; granted, even, that there are practical points in favour of the present Bill as it will become modified in Committee: there yet remains the higher question of the point at which the State's regulation of the private affairs of its citizens ceases to be legitimate.

The perfect Democracy dreamed of by Socialists would contemplate with equanimity the final surrender of individual rights. Under the ideal Socialist State a man would be entitled not only to no property, but to no will of his own. The full implications of Socialism do, indeed, in strict logic, imperil the conception of family life itself. And even here before our eyes, and supported by members among all parties, we see the principle of State control of private destinies pushed to the extreme of decreeing that children shall live apart from their parents, and even wives apart from their husbands, for long periods at a time—all this in deference to the chosen views of the State on compulsory education. Having established a principle, it must be carried to its logical conclusion, even at the cost of ordering the life and liberty of the family circle. This is where democracy leads us, and it comes curiously close to dictatorship.

We must not be supposed to be condemning the fact; we are merely exhibiting it for contemplation. If an example of the ultimate paradox be required we have only to turn our eyes to Russia. In that land of supreme democracy the State has just embarked, in the sacred name of Communism, on a ferocious campaign for the final extirpation of private rights. The deepest instinct of mankind, bar one, the acquisitive instinct, has been showing a monstrous tendency to assert itself. Such atavism must be crushed. Accordingly, the *kulaki*—all peasants, that is, owning three or more cows—are to be exterminated for the unregenerate capitalists they are. As a preliminary means to that end the entire agricultural community of Russia is to be placed under military discipline, and the Red Army is to get busy training "organisers" and "commanders" of collective farming, with special training in the theory and practice of exterminating the *kulaki*. Could Democracy go further?

EMPIRE TRADE.

ON Wednesday the Conservative leader is to make an important declaration of party policy. Recent circumstances have forced the fiscal issue to the front again. The Conservative Party has more than once come to grief on tariffs, and we do not anticipate that Mr. BALDWIN will commit his followers to any line of policy that will place them again in jeopardy. Rightly or wrongly, the British people have set themselves against any taxation of foodstuffs. But to declare against a general measure of Protection is not by any means to rule out the encouragement and development of Imperial trade. On the contrary, we are certain that Mr. BALDWIN will be found strongly in favour of a strenuous campaign to develop the resources of the Empire.

Last week's debate on what has come to be called Empire Free Trade showed up the impracticability of that doctrine. Admirable as it may be in theory, it could never happen. But one good thing the campaign has done is to bring the Empire to the fore in politics, and we may be sure that Mr. BALDWIN and the Conservative Party will be found wholeheartedly in favour of keeping it there. The Empire, as Mr. BALDWIN recently said, is the one area—and it is a vast one—where we can develop our trade without injuring anyone else. The development of Empire trade is fundamental to our future prosperity, and Conservative policy must concentrate on bringing that development about.

THE POST OFFICE.

THE Post Office has been subjected to a good deal of criticism of late because of the numerous mailbag robberies which have taken place. It is a very serious matter when one of the great Departments of State to whose care is entrusted not only the correspondence of the people, but money and valuable securities, fails even in a partial manner to carry out its obligations. To those who know the haphazard way in which the Postal authorities handle the mails the surprise is not that there are so many robberies, but that there are not far more.

The comparative immunity from losses is due to the honesty of the public rather than to any precautionary measures on the part of the Post Office. How serious is the view the commercial community take of the case has been publicly expressed by leading bankers. State institutions are so bound by red tape that it is difficult to get them to move, but the Postal authorities should understand that in demanding protection against robberies the bankers are voicing the opinions and the wishes of the whole community. Even with the best system there must be occasional faults, but that is no excuse for maintaining a system which encourages rather than deters robberies.

Meanwhile, there is good news from the Post Office in the form of a surplus of £9,000,000. What will the POSTMASTER-GENERAL do with it? Mr. SNOWDEN has said he will make no raids, and that his one desire is to encourage revival. He could do few things better in this direction than reintroduce the penny postage. That would confer not only a direct financial benefit on trade and commerce; it would act as a moral tonic to the whole nation, to feel that the days of the penny post were with it once again.

ALDERMEN'S SOUP.

THOSE societies formed in England to preserve landmarks of the past may be called upon by a fresh disaster. When the Aldermen of the City of London sat down to dine the other night they were given Russian bortsch in place of the turtle soup that has been customary for centuries. At a few gulps a page of history had been turned. None may now speak, as past writers did, of "turtle-fed aldermen" or of those "turtle-frolics,' referred to by eighteenth century wit, which call up a view of dignified gentlemen behaving like W. S. GILBERT'S Ferdinand, who said:—

> I waved the turtle-soup enthusiastically round me.

The thinner joys of beetroot and sour cream take the place of those departed pranks. It may be the Aldermen object most—and rightly—to being described in terms of their diet. It is not the most accurate way: a man who often eats tall rods of celery is not of necessity one of the world's strap-hangers, an eater of roast beef not a slapper-on-the-back of his friends, or an addict of tinned foods not a close, self contained fellow, given to long, secluded thoughts.

LORDS AND COMMONS.

UNEMPLOYMENT BILL AMENDMENTS.

NEW AND DANGEROUS DOCTRINE.

UNFAIR TREATMENT OF THE UPPER HOUSE.

By "Scrutator."

Do we make the best use of the House of Lords? Does the Labour Party, or for that matter any party, treat it quite fairly? At the end of a week which has seen the first serious conflict between the House of Lords and a Labour Government these questions ask themselves. Fortunately, the conflict is not likely to be embittered. The Labour Government has accepted some of the Lords' amendments to the Unemployment Insurance Bill and rejected others, but it has so far waived the question of the Commons' privilege in finance, and it has studiously abstained from the strong language to which we were accustomed in the old controversies between Lords and Commons. No doubt if the Lords were to insist on their amendment of Clause 4 hard words might be spoken and the privilege waived last week might be asserted. They are more likely to insist on the time-limit which the Government may reasonably accept if the limit is extended to two or three years. But there is no constitutional crisis nor sign of one.

On the other hand, the signs of inefficiency in legislation multiply. The peculiarity of last week's proceedings when the Lords' amendments came down to the Commons was that the Government never denied that the Bill had been improved since it left the Commons. One amendment indeed that was accepted was, as will be seen presently, of first-rate importance. But even the amendments that were rejected were not disputed on their merits. Neither in the Lords nor in the Commons did the Government representatives give any reason whatever for preferring the Clause 4 that went up to the Lords to the new Clause 4 which came down. When Lord Salisbury protested against Lord Parmoor's refusal to vary the clause the following dialogue took place between them:—

> Lord Parmoor: Well, they cannot. That is true. They will not.
> Lord Salisbury: They will not?
> Lord Parmoor: They cannot.
> Lord Salisbury: It is much more likely to be "cannot" than "will not."
> Lord Parmoor: Both of them.

"A House of Commons Woman."

Words could not make it clearer that the Government, if it had been free, would have preferred the amendment of the Lords. Miss Bondfield, in the House of Commons, said in so many words that there was no essential difference between the Lords' amendment and the words that she had originally proposed in the Bill as it was first introduced, and she went on to refuse the Lords' amendment simply because she was "a House of Commons woman." The clause in question, it will be remembered, was the one which the Government was forced to rewrite in obedience to a strange combination of forces between some of its own followers and the Liberals. In its first form, while it rejected the old qualification for benefit that the applicant must prove that he was "genuinely seeking work," it still withheld benefit if it could be proved that he was not. As amended by the Commons, the applicant need take no steps to find work; only if he rejected suitable work that was actually brought to him did he lose his right to benefit.

"It is Chose Jugée."

What the Lords did was to restore the sense of the original draft. "If only I could incorporate in the Bill the rules of the trade unions," said Miss Bondfield in the earlier stages of the debate. And that was exactly what Lord Darling's amendment did, by lifting a rule of the N.U.R. and inserting it in the Bill. Lord Salisbury said that he would have been only too pleased if the agency of the unions were used to test the soundness of a man's claim. The difference between the two versions is not one of words, but is vital to the moral and financial implications of the clause, and the Government knows that it is accepting an inferior and, indeed, dangerous form of the clause. It has to be. The Commons has said it. It is *chose jugée*.

This is an alarming extension of anything ever contemplated by the Parliament Act. The Act was passed to prevent the Government of the day from being permanently thwarted by a minority in the Commons working in alliance with the House of Lords. Even so it allowed a delay of three years. But what happened last week was that the House of Lords was not allowed to help the Government against a fortuitous combination of forces in the Commons which had conspired to defeat its better judgment. The Conservative Opposition was much to blame in not deploying its whole force last week against so monstrous an innovation in constitutional theory and practice.

The Privilege Question.

Not only will revision by the Lords become impossible, but even the delay that the Parliament Act concedes to be reasonable. The Government waived the financial privilege of the Commons which the Speaker ruled applied to this clause, and therein showed its reasonableness. For nearly all legislation nowadays imposes a financial charge or other, and if privilege is to extend to all regulations which have any financial aspect, we shall not merely have single chamber government without possibility of delay but under the three-party system a system of government without effective Cabinet control by chance combinations of minorities. Privilege ought surely to be limited to changes which either impose a tax or affect the incidence of a tax, not to regulations for more efficient or juster distribution of its yield.

The Right Reform.

Much time has been spent on making elaborate schemes for the fashioning of an ideal House of Lords which shall be more completely representative of the country. It is time wasted, for the present need is much more elementary. Representation, like all political forms, has its diseases, and our unreformed system of elections yields results that are unrepresentative and give wildly disproportionate influence to chance combinations of minorities. It is not by grafting on to the House of Lords an elected or popular element that we shall improve its working. The ancient democracies were as vigorous as ours, but popular representation was unknown to them, and it is absurd to pretend that one comparatively modern form is the only valid form, and that all others are mere usurpations.

Retrospective Legislation.

An amendment to the Unemployment Insurance Bill made by the Lords, accepted by the Government, but hardly noticed by the newspapers, shows how little democracy can afford to dispense with any ally or to rely solely on the House of Commons. For several years the Corporation of Huddersfield had had a dispute whether it was liable to pay unemployment contributions for certain aged servants in receipt of old age pensions whom it was keeping on in light work. The Ministry held that it was liable, and the corporation, acting on excellent legal advice, maintained that it was not. A test action was to have been brought. But smuggled in a corner of a preamble to the new Bill was a clause which not only cleared up doubts about the future law, but actually made its operation retrospective so as to cover the period during which the matter had been in dispute with the corporation.

A more scandalous usurpation of law by a Government department could hardly be conceived. Retrospective legislation is unconstitutional in the United States and it is against our practice here because, for the reason given by Coke centuries ago, "it is unjust to make offences which were not offences when the people committed them." As Lord Darling pointed out, this was a question that affected not only the Huddersfield Corporation, but all people who employ anybody over 65, and certainly over 70 years of age. Yet it was left to the House of Lords to vindicate this most elementary principle of democratic justice.

Ideal Body for Revision.

Our first duty, then, is not to extend the powers of the House of Lords or amend the Parliament Act. It is to enable it better to discharge its existing powers, and to maintain the spirit of the Parliament Act against those who would abolish the safeguards against hasty legislation that it still leaves us, and substitute government by single chamber or by chance minorities that by combination can defy the Government in that Chamber.

For this work the House of Lords as it at present meets is an ideal body. In the members that do the actual work the hereditary principle is unimportant; rather is the Lords a Soviet in which just those qualities most required for revising work—knowledge of the law, administrative experience at home and abroad, political tradition and learning, courage—are represented better than they could be in any other body that could be devised. Mr. MacDonald has shown himself not insensible of the value of the House of Lords. He has acknowledged the injustice of thrusting on the House of Lords at the very end of the session a vast mass of legislative revision which it is physically impossible that it could do properly in the time; and by introducing the Motor Transport Bill first in the Lords he is continuing a practice that might be extended. Is it too much to hope that Mr. MacDonald will seek to check the new limitations on the usefulness of the Lords, mindful of the fact that firm responsible government has equal need of protection against chance combinations. It can all be done within the Parliament Act, and this is the real House of Lords question.

Carbarians of the Road.

By LORD DARLING.

Setter of type, we thank thee for thy apt word—
Whether of malice prepense thou didst compound it,
Or, by mischance, didst merely C for B take—
Carelessly skilful.

Thou hast provided just the term we wanted;
Never henceforward will we speak of "road-hogs,"
But, when provoked, Car-barians in passing
Scornfully call them.

Printing House Square most proud must be to house thee,
Maker of word for ever to be spelt so,
Setter of type, but setter too of fashion—
Genius loci.

Printer, deserving praise beyond all printing;
Blest be thy Press, perpetual thy Paper—
O, thou a grateful world hast made thy debtor
By this distortion.

Continued from next column.

can trick, went back to her lump tonnage notion. Having found that no trick is intended, she is now ready to "split the difference."

VICTORY OVER DISTRUST.

This is a big step forward. It is a victory over distrust. Room has been made for confidence. But distrust is very agile. Turned out of the Conference by the front door, it may try to get back through the window. In one shape or other it is certain to crop up again—perhaps between France and Italy—later on. Italy, who made the mistake of thinking that England and France were sure to quarrel in London over the lump tonnage idea, has got herself into what her Press calls an "individual position." Much tact and good will may be needed to help her to get out of it. One of the best things about the Conference is that there has been no dearth of tact and good will. Even Italy may come to see that nobody wishes to dictate to her.

As long as a good spirit prevails, the public will trust the Conference, provided that, in their public utterances, delegates keep clear of jargon and talk simply. In this whole business of cutting down navies there is nothing mysterious. It can all be put into plain language. If the Conference is to keep public confidence, its members must tell the peoples what they are doing in words which the peoples can understand.

FIRST PHASE OF THE CONFERENCE.

THE CASE FOR THE PUBLIC.

TRUST AND SIMPLICITY

By WICKHAM STEED.

The Naval Conference did well last week. A muddle that has held up the League's Disarmament Commission for years, that smashed the Geneva Three-Power Conference in 1927, and upset the Anglo-French Naval Compromise of 1928, was tackled and partly cleared up. Another muddle which might have made bad blood was skilfully avoided. The public was told some things it had a right to know. Mr. Stimson, the head of the American delegation, spoke well by wireless to the peoples of the United States and of Great Britain. Finally the French "transactional proposal," with its scheme for harmonising limitation by "global tonnage" and limitation by "categories," subject to some degree of "transfer," was put on the agenda for next Tuesday.

So far, so good. Both the atmosphere and the agenda have been improved. But now the Conference, sitting "in committee," will go underground again; and the public, which has begun to trust it, may not be able to make head or tail of its doings. Cannot some delegate with a talent for simplicity issue a child's guide, complete with glossary?

The trouble with all international gatherings which meet to handle technical complexities is that those who take part in them tend to talk the jargon of experts. By dint of practice they come to know what expert slang really means; and they forget that it may all be double-Dutch to the public. In spite of what has been written and said since the Conference met, I doubt whether one plain man in a thousand understands the French "transactional proposal," or could explain it to other plain men.

HOW IT STANDS.

To me—though I may be wrong—it seems something like this. The five naval Powers agree that, since they are no longer going to fight each other, it would be a good thing to cut down the size of navies and to spend less money on them. France thinks that the best way to cut down navies would be to give each Power a certain amount of tonnage in the lump, and to leave it free to split up the amount into battleships, big cruisers, little cruisers, destroyers, submarines, and so forth as it might prefer. Great Britain, America, and Japan think, on the contrary, that this would be dangerous, because one Power might like to put all its tonnage into big vessels which would frighten another Power that had chosen small vessels. Therefore they want to settle beforehand exactly how each Power should split its tonnage up, so that none of them should be able to frighten the others. After a great deal of quarrelling bargaining, and haggling, France and Great Britain have thought of a dodge for splitting up lump tonnage in such a way as to split at the same time, the difference between them. This dodge is the "transactional proposal."

LUMP TONNAGE.

Why should France have stuck to the lump tonnage idea while the Powers with bigger navies preferred the other method? Chiefly because French sailors have long been at loggerheads among themselves over the right sort of navy for France. Some of them would like a lot of little ships, others want a mixture of big and little in varying proportions, and none of them wishes to be dictated to by the British and the Americans. If something like an Anglo-French agreement has now been come to, it is partly for the reason that France begins to understand that neither England nor America wants to dictate to her.

The gist of this agreement is that each Power shall say how much lump tonnage it wants and shall promise not to build more; that this lump tonnage shall be split up into five sorts of warship, from the very big to the very small: but that, among the smaller sorts, each Power shall be free to change a part of its tonnage over from one sort to another, if it gives a year's notice of the change to all the other Powers. In this way, France thinks, nobody will be able to steal a march on anybody else, and nobody will be frightened.

KERNEL OF THE MATTER.

This sounds so simple as to make it seem comic that experts and statesmen should have wrangled for years about the best way to cut navies down. But as Mr. Ramsay MacDonald, quoting Mr. Stimson, said in his wireless talk to the American people, "Too little means of defence gives a nation a feeling of insecurity. Too much gives its neighbours a feeling of insecurity. This is the kernel of the truth of the matter." No naval Power has, as yet, quite got over the feeling that, in cutting down its fleet, it is making "sacrifices." It dislikes giving up something that made it feel safe. The idea that it is making "a contribution to disarmament" leaves the cockles of its heart unwarmed. It is sure of its own honesty; but who can be sure that foreigners won't play dirty tricks? So everybody is very wary, and trusts the others, who are all "foreigners" to it, not quite so far as it can see them.

PAST BLUNDERS.

At the Washington Naval Conference of 1921, France distrusted Great Britain, yet found comfort in the thought that Great Britain and America were sure to quarrel over naval "parity"; France was wrong, but her wrongness did not help Great Britain to trust her; and in their distrust some British delegates made silly mistakes. In the League's Disarmament Commission in 1926, French distrust took the shape of the lump tonnage idea, and British distrust was expressed in the contrary idea of splitting up lump tonnage in advance. At the Three-Power (Anglo-American-Japanese) Geneva Conference of 1927 the distrust between Great Britain and the United States came out in the British wish for equality with America in 10,000-ton cruisers and for superiority over America in smaller cruisers. This was one of the reasons why that Conference broke down. In 1928 England and France made a "naval compromise," not unlike the present "transactional proposal", but America would have none of it because it fixed only the splitting up of the tonnage to be put into 10,000-ton cruisers, and applied the lump tonnage idea to the smaller cruisers which England wanted and America did not want. Last summer, England and America agreed roughly upon the 10,000-ton cruisers, and agreed also to summon the other naval Powers to a Conference in London for an all-round settlement. France, fearing an Anglo-Ameri-

Continued at foot of preceding column.

CANCELLED CRUISERS.

SURPRISE AT DISCLOSURE THAT TWO MORE ARE "DROPPED."

A BRITISH GESTURE TO THE WORLD.

IS IT TOO GENEROUS AT PRESENT?

By OUR DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT.

The outstanding fact in Naval Conference circles yesterday was the surprise caused by the revelation in the *Daily Telegraph* that the Government had dropped two cruisers from this year's naval programme, in addition to the cancellation of work on two other cruisers which had been announced a few days earlier.

This "gesture" has surprised even foreign delegates to the Conference, leaving no doubt in their minds—if any existed before—as to the sincerity of the British Government's desire to make the Five-Power Conference a success.

What causes the concession to be eagerly discussed in British circles, however, is concern lest the Government, in their anxiety to demonstrate British desire for a Naval Agreement, have not made too generous a gesture at this stage of the Naval Discussions.

HOW DISCLOSURE WAS MADE.

FOUR CANCELLATIONS

The SUNDAY TIMES Diplomatic Correspondent adds:—

Apart from the concern of Naval experts of the Blue Water school, who felt that the further reduction of British cruiser strength could only be regarded with misgiving, the chief impression to be gained in Naval Conference circles yesterday was that of surprise.

It was felt, particularly among foreign delegates and their expert advisers, that it was little short of astonishing that so important a step by the British Government as the abandonment of two additional cruisers should have been revealed in such an obscurely-phrased written answer as that given by the First Lord of the Admiralty (Mr. A. V. Alexander) on Wednesday. It was not until the Naval Correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph* yesterday interpreted the official language in plain words, that the fact that the Government had dropped four cruisers in a week was revealed to the world.

Admiralty Confirmation.

All that the Admiralty spokesman could say yesterday in response to the eager inquiries of hundreds of special correspondents who are assembled in London representing the world's newspapers, was that one of the cruisers was of less than 10,000 tons, and that it would have carried 6-in. guns.

Thus the Admiralty confirmed in every respect the *Daily Telegraph* interpretation of the First Lord's statement that the Government had "dropped" four cruisers from its programme, two—the Surrey and the Northumberland, both of 10,000 tons—from its 1928-29 programme and two from the 1929-30 programme. In the case of the cruisers of the county class work had been already begun, and orders for their construction had been cancelled. The "dropping" of the two additional cruisers from the 1929-30 programme takes place before any orders have been given for them. One of them was of the 10,000 tons variety, carrying 8-in guns and the other of a smaller type, carrying 6-in. guns.

Following the First Lord's statement it had been assumed that the two cruisers dropped were the Surrey and the Northumberland; it was the *Daily Telegraph* revelation yesterday that cleared up this misapprehension.

A leading member of one of the delegations said to me yesterday that neither he nor his colleagues had hitherto appreciated the full significance of the First Lord's statement.

Other Categories.

The other curtailments of the British programme also give rise to doubts in many quarters. The dropping of four destroyers and three submarines is a startling step having regard to the present weakness of the Navy in these categories compared with the other naval Powers. Nor can the Navy be said to be well off in sloops to be able to afford the dropping of two of these handy little ships. Many of our existing vessels of this class are fast approaching obsolescence.

It is, moreover important to remember that the vessels of these subsidiary categories are of the utmost importance in anti-submarine warfare. A ruthless cutting-down of such vessels before any kind of guarantee has been established as to the future place of the submarine—no one can forget the havoc it wrought in the last war—can only be viewed with apprehension.

FORESTALLING THE CONFERENCE.

STEP THAT CAUSES UNEASINESS.

By OUR NAVAL CORRESPONDENT.

The First Lord of the Admiralty has announced, somewhat abruptly, that the naval building programme for the current year has been reduced. The actual reduction is described by a brief tabular statement:—

Programme approved by Parliament:
- Three Cruisers—one with 8-in. guns.
- One Flotilla Leader.
- Eight Destroyers.
- Six Submarines.
- Six Sloops.

Amended programme:
- One Cruiser (without 8-in. guns).
- Four Destroyers.
- Four Sloops.
- Three Submarines.

It must be admitted at once that there is nothing immediately alarming in this reduction. The ships in the programme approved by Parliament were shown as "projected" in the Admiralty return of 1929. "Projected" means that no building had then been started. Nor must it be imagined that the reduction will immediately affect the combatant strength of the Navy as a whole. A cruiser takes from three and a-half to four years to build; a destroyer rather more than two, and an ocean-going submarine about two. All that can be said, therefore, is that this reduction slows down the average rate at which obsolescent units are replaced.

Time to Reverse Decision.

This, again, is not a particularly serious matter. No cruisers or destroyers are marked obsolescent on the latest Admiralty return, although next year one light cruiser—the Dartmouth—will complete that twenty years' service which is said to be the effective life of vessels of the cruiser type. In 1933 the Sydney becomes out of date; in the following year the two Chathams will have to be replaced. So that during the next four years only four new vessels will have to be brought into service to keep the Navy up to strength. If the Government's reduction proves to be unwise there will be ample time to reverse the decision that has just been taken.

Nevertheless, it is not possible to dismiss the Government's announcement with a few reassuring remarks. This sudden reduction is possibly not alarming. It is none the less disquieting as an indication of a tendency to forestall the results of the Conference, and to reduce the Navy to a strength fixed quite arbitrarily by the British Premier when he discussed naval building with the American President at his fishing camp.

The Political Guarantees.

It is now freely admitted that during these conversations Mr. MacDonald agreed that 50 cruisers and about 130 destroyers would be sufficient protection for the maritime communications of the British Empire, notwithstanding that two years previously the British Government of the day had assessed adequate protection at a considerably higher figure—70 cruisers and about 160 destroyers.

It is true that the Government have explained their reasons for thus reducing the original estimate. They say that since it was made the British Empire has received political guarantees against molestation, and that those guarantees are at least as valuable as twenty cruisers. An explanation of this kind must be taken seriously, for in every period of history political guarantees have affected military preparations. But it is beyond all question that the military value of modern political guarantees—pacts for the renunciation of war and so on—is not so easy to assess as the military value of previous guarantees, which were given in the old-fashioned coinage of alliances.

Causing Uneasiness.

It is tolerably easy to decide what strategic zones may be left to the custody of an ally who has undertaken to place his forces at your disposal, but it is not easy to estimate what points may be left unguarded, and what interests may be left unprotected, because a number of States have promised to maintain good and friendly relations with one another.

Now, whether the Prime Minister has over- or under-estimated the military value of these new political guarantees, it is beyond all question that the Conference will throw much light upon the matter. When all the Maritime Powers have explained their policies and intentions fully, the military value of the Pact for the Renunciation of War will be more easily assessed. Also, any permanent reduction in the British cruiser and destroyer fleets is entirely contingent upon guarantees against submarine war upon commercial traffic.

None of these matters have, so far, been so much as touched upon. For these reasons it can be said that the Government's sudden announcement of a reduced programme has been issued at a bad time. The decision may in itself be perfectly justifiable; it has none the less been made in a manner which must cause uneasiness, and raise the suspicion that, on questions of naval defence, the Government have certain fixed intentions, and that they mean to give effect to them regardless of facts and circumstances.

Continued from preceding column.

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BRITAIN'S MOTIVES.

COMMENT ON SEAS SUPREMACY.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

PARIS, Saturday.

In political circles here, the fact revealed to-day by the *Daily Telegraph* naval correspondent that Great Britain had decided to drop the building of four cruisers has come as a surprise, for it had been assumed among naval experts that building of only two had been cancelled.

La Liberte commenting upon the situation, says that England is anticipating the limitation of naval armaments, including her own, because the United States desires such limitation, and one of Great Britain's political principles is to avoid coming into conflict with her American cousins. Another reason, says *La Liberte*, is that participation in a competition in naval armaments would be ruinous to her Budget. What Great Britain really wants, it is suggested, is that, while her naval forces may not be dominant, she must not lose supremacy of the seas. France does not wish Great Britain to lose that domination, but there is a condition, namely, that France and Great Britain must co-operate in a naval *Entente Cordiale* in ensuring the security of the ocean and the guaranteeing of the safety of their respective possessions.

U.S. DELEGATES IN MILTON'S COUNTRY.

MR. MACDONALD GUIDE AND HOST.

"PARADISE REGAINED" BY THE CONFERENCE?

The Prime Minister, wearing a golf suit and cap, acted as "guide, philosopher and friend" when he conducted the American delegates to the Naval Conference, their wives and daughters, over some of the most historical places in Buckinghamshire yesterday.

The tour was begun at 9 o'clock, and afterwards the visitors were entertained at lunch at Chequers, the residence of the Prime Minister.

The Americans were almost as familiar as the Prime Minister himself with the story of many of the places they visited, and they were enraptured by the cottage where once lived the author of "Paradise Lost." They did not talk much but their thoughts were carried down the centuries.

"It seems almost inconceivable that we are standing upon the very spot where that great man lived" said one of the American delegates to the Prime Minister. He looked very thoughtful, and then added quickly, "Milton wrote 'Paradise Lost,' but if we can achieve success at the Naval Conference we shall have written across the pages of history 'Paradise regained.'"

AT MILTON'S COTTAGE.

Mr. MacDonald was at Chequers on Friday night and motored out immediately after breakfast yesterday to meet the delegates at Milton's cottage at Chalfont St. Peters, the first halting place. Mr. MacDonald revelled in his task of explaining all that the historic places the delegates saw mean to Englishmen the world over.

The party went on to the village of Jordans, where they sat in the old meeting-house and saw the ancient oak beams which are said to have been built with wood of the May flower, which carried the Pilgrim Fathers to America.

They spent a considerable time in the tiny church of Great Hampden, where John Hampden worshipped, and were taken over the twelfth-century Hampden House, which almost adjoins the churchyard. This is still the residence of the Earl of Buckinghamshire, the family descended from John Hampden.

MR. STIMSON'S COMMENT.

After luncheon the visitors were shown over the estate of Chequers. They plodded through the dank, sodden leaves in the woods and were able to visualise the beauty of the place when it is in full leaf.

"It has been one of the most interesting days of my life," Mr. Stimson said to a Press representative. "I don't think I shall ever forget it. You can hardly imagine what it has brought to me—to stand on what to me is sacred ground with which the history of both Great Britain and America is so closely intertwined.

"It reminded me once more that we sprang from a common stock; that we are what might be called blood brothers. These are links which should help us to see that so far as is humanly possible we shall continue to live at peace with one another and strive to establish permanent peace in the world."

FRENCH SATISFACTION.

M. TARDIEU'S HOPES OF CONFERENCE RESULTS.

CALAIS, Saturday.

M. Tardieu, on landing here this afternoon, was received by the mayor and the members of the municipal council. He thanked them for their greetings, and spoke briefly on the political position of France at home and abroad.

"In London," he said, "our real work just begins, and it would be rash on my part, and not fitting as well, to prejudge the issue. All I can say is that France is already entitled to derive satisfaction from the fact that the method proposed by her in 1927 for the limitation of naval armaments has been definitely adopted by all the Powers represented at the Conference, before whom, in the previous week, our national needs had already been stated.

"This gives us the assurance that we shall no longer, during the discussions, suffer the unjust tyranny of mathematical formulæ which exerted itself eight years ago. It will, therefore, be possible for us, with a feeling of independence and good will, to take part freely in the common research of necessary adjustments. Being given the ground on which the debate is thus placed, the effort made in London will be helpful to the ulterior work in Geneva. This is a fact upon the interest of which I need not enlarge."—*Reuter.*

ANOTHER U.S. CRUISER LAUNCHED.

NEWPORT NEWS (VIRGINIA), Saturday.

The Augusta, the latest light cruiser of the United States Navy, was launched to-day in the presence of the Assistant Secretary of the Navy, a number of senior military and naval officers, and many members of Congress.—*Reuter.*

DUKE OF WESTMINSTER.

CROWDS WAIT IN VAIN TO WITNESS MARRIAGE.

ROUEN, Saturday.

Contrary to reports which appear to have gained currency abroad, the Duke of Westminster's marriage to Miss Loelia Mary Ponsonby has not yet taken place.

The Duke at present is at the Château de Saint Saens with his fiancé. To-day he was hunting. The greatest secrecy is being observed at the château regarding both the date and the place of the marriage.—*Reuter.*

From eight a.m. yesterday until well into the afternoon a crowd of people waited outside Princes Row Register Office, Victoria, in the hope of seeing the Duke of Westminster arrive for his marriage.

STOP-PRESS NEWS ON PAGE 16, COLUMN 2.

LONDON BOMB SENSATION.

DISCOVERY AT BRITISH MUSEUM.

'PHONE WARNING OF PLOT.

INDIAN STUDENTS' THREAT OVERHEARD.

The startling discovery of a bomb in the British Museum was made last evening.

The discovery followed a telephone message from a stranger that Indian students intended placing a bomb in the Indian Room at the Museum.

The bomb was found in a corner on the first floor of the Indian Room, partly concealed and only a short distance from the section in which Indian exhibits are arranged.

It was obviously of home manufacture; whether it is a death-dealing machine or not will be determined by Home Office experts after examination.

THOROUGH SEARCH.

The Museum authorities received the telephone message in the afternoon from a man who told them of a conversation of some Indian students that he had overheard. He said that as far as he could gather the men intended placing the bomb in the Indian Room at the Museum, but whether they had actually carried out their threat he could not say.

Immediately all officials at the Museum were acquainted, and a thorough search of the building was begun. Shortly after five o'clock the discovery was made by Mr. Frank Briggs, of Western Road, Brighton, who saw a circular package, wrapped in newspaper, lying almost hidden on the first landing on the main staircase. A fuse hung from it.

The fuse was cut away, and police, who had been summoned, took the bomb to Tottenham Court Road police station, where it is being closely guarded.

Superintendent Parker, Chief of the Special Branch at Scotland Yard, who has taken charge of the investigations, and other officers visited the Museum at night, and searched the place where the bomb was found for clues.

IRREPLACEABLE SCULPTURE.

The India Gallery, near which the bomb was found, contains a superb collection of Indian religious sculptures. Some of the carved Buddhist relics are not only unusually beautiful, but they are also extremely rare, and had an explosion been caused, the loss both to this country and India would have been irreparable.

Other sculptures represent some of the finest specimens of Græco-Indian art in existence. The whole collection is in itself a history of religious India.

A number of guards are in attendance during the hours when the Museum is closed to the public, and so keen is the supervision that the authorities are convinced that the bomb was left in the Indian Room before four o'clock yesterday.

It is thought that the bomb must have been left before the public were excluded from the room. Had this not been so, it is regarded as almost certain that an attendant or a visitor to the Museum would have noticed the package.

Indians who might have been in the Indian Room yesterday would not have been particularly noticed because many students in London make that room the centre of their work.

PROPAGANDA IN LONDON.

The SUNDAY TIMES learns that latterly much activity among extremist members of the Indian community in London has been observed, with the result that surveillance by the authorities has been increased.

Bloomsbury, in which area the British Museum is situated, is a *rendezvous* of Indian students who are pursuing their studies in London. It is estimated there are over a thousand of these, with a similar number in the aggregate scattered over the universities and training colleges in other cities in the country. Generally, the students are well behaved and are devoting themselves assiduously and exclusively to their studies, but there is, nevertheless, a number who are avowedly extremists and are carrying on hostile propaganda among their compatriots.

To so serious an extent, indeed, is this attempt to win adherents to the extreme independence cause being carried on that an association, formed among the students themselves, has been set up to counteract the seditious influences of the extremists.

Sunday Times

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POLITICAL NOTES

UNEMPLOYMENT BILL.

LORDS' AMENDMENTS.

A CONSTITUTIONAL ISSUE

By OUR POLITICAL CORRESPONDENT.

The Unemployment Insurance Bill will be again before the Upper House to-morrow for consideration of the Commons' disagreement with several of the Lords amendments of the Bill, more particularly Lord Darling's new genuinely seeking work" clause, and Lord Salisbury's proposed time limit to the Bill. The occasion will be of first-rate importance, for not only is the constitutional relation of the two Houses raised for the first time by a Socialist Government, but the special function of the Lords as a revising chamber is implicitly denied, and a new interpretation given to the Parliament Act. A notable feature of the debate in the Commons on Thursday was that none of the Ministerial speakers, including the Minister of Labour herself, impugned the fairness of the Lords amendments; their sole contention was that the Lords had overruled the considered opinion of the Commons, and that the latter must prevail. No such limitation of the powers of the Upper House was in the minds of the framers of the Parliament Act, or has ever been put forward before; and if it be admitted, the debates in the Upper House would become merely a farcical form, and the functions of the assembly would be practically reduced to saying "ditto."

Choosing Their Ground.

It is obvious that in this matter the Lords must 'walk delicately.' There is no desire on the part of the Conservative majority in the House to precipitate a constitutional crisis just now, when it we are to come successfully through a very critical period of our history, we need the largest possible co-operation of parties and classes. Still, the Lords cannot tamely submit to be elbowed out of their rightful place in our legislative activity, and it is for them to choose their ground carefully for effective protest so that they still have the general sense of the community with them. For that reason they may accept the deletion of Lord Darling's clause and the restoration of the clause drafted by the Attorney-General. Lord Darling's clause, to be sure, only put into form what Miss Bondfield herself expressed when the Bill was first introduced, but insistence on it might be made a pretext for an agitation against the Lords as an assembly without bowels of mercy for the unemployed.

Lord Salisbury's time-limit amendment terminating the operation of the Bill on March 31, 1931, is not open to such misrepresentation, and the Government could hardly afford to make the Lords' insistence on it a constitutional issue. For one thing, it would considerably delay the passage of a measure that they are extremely anxious to get on the Statute Book, and still further derange their congested programme. Nor would they be blind to the fact that the issue would not be one on which they could make effective attack on the Lords. Admittedly the financial commitments of the Bill are uncertain, and they would find it very difficult to arouse resentment against the Lords because the latter insisted on a step of common prudence, viz., to leave the way open for revision in the light of a year's operation of the measure.

The Coal Bill.

At last the Coal Bill is to go into Committee. Apparently the Prime Minister has taken Mr. Lloyd George's advice to "come off his high hobby-horse," for during the past week Mr. Graham has been conducting pourparlers with the Liberals, the first meeting, it may be noted, taking place at the offices of the Liberal leader. No very definite results have been attained, but I understand that relations have decidedly improved. The Liberals still dislike the quota, the fixing of minimum prices, and, up to a point, the compulsory element in the marketing schemes. They urged, too, the postponement of the discussion of the marketing schemes until hours of work and other elements in the Bill had been covered. But the Government feel, it is stated, that they have already made substantial concession in the inclusion of the amalgamation proposals, and that it is now the duty of the Liberals to respond with co-operation in friendly analysis of the marketing plans. The bulk of the Liberals are now probably of the same way of thinking; and many of them say that if the Government could introduce further safeguard in the working of the quota restriction—chiefly in the sense of securing the protection of output of good or efficient colliery units—there would be no remaining difficulty of substance. Anyway, the debate on the proposal to postpone may clear the air, for the Government may be able to prove that it would be virtually impossible to discuss amalgamation effectively until the House knew the function of the district associations in the disposal of the coal.

The Marketing Schemes.

Assuming that the House decides to proceed at once to Part I. and the analysis of marketing, the Liberals have confined themselves at this stage to one or two amendments, of which the chief is to omit the reference to production. That, of course, obliterates the marketing schemes as now conceived, but it is very doubtful if the Liberals intend to press this to the last ditch. Not only is the amendment in the names of back-benchers in itself significant but if there were a Government statement offering such further safeguard on the quota restriction point as might be acceptable, the amendment would be negatived, or at all events be otherwise certain of defeat, for the Unionists while by no means in love with the Bill, certainly desire the discussion of their own amendments. The majority of these are not out-and-out opposition: and there are some which the Government might even favourably consider. At this stage, therefore, the prospects of the Bill are definitely brighter, but the Government have realised that at all points the Committee stage must be handled with tact and very genuine patience.

Liberals and Labour.

To all this there is considerable political environment if the Lobby gossip can be trusted. In general Labour and Liberal members do not wish an election for a considerable time. The coal conversations are believed to have been so friendly and frank that they have opened the door to wider possibilities. To the men of longer view in both camps this is more important than such differences as remain on precise clauses in the Coal Mines Bill. If Labour and Liberalism can get through this measure in tolerable friendship, and if there is, as is now hinted, advance consultation with the Liberals regarding other legislation in store Mr. Lloyd George may preserve his present desire to help. For the time being that might be the form of co-operation. It would save much time in the Commons. Beyond that, some of the Liberals request a truce in the constituencies, which is probably impossible in view of the extreme local autonomy of the Labour organisation. All of them would like an understanding in electoral reform; I hear that if the Government agreed the whole face of this Parliament might be changed. But with the best friendship in the world the great bulk of Labour thinks that Liberalism, as a large Parliamentary force, cannot in any event survive; that the sacrifice would be all on the side of Labour; and that the only practical application of the appeal would be proportional representation, to which Labour, with certain exceptions, remains generally opposed.

MALINES SECRETS.

MINUTES NOW TO BE PUBLISHED.

"SUNDAY TIMES" DETAILS CONFIRMED.

The SUNDAY TIMES learns that a full report of the Malines Conversations between representatives of the Anglican and Roman Churches is to be published within the present month. The Conversations, beginning in 1921, concluded in 1925, but the publication of these official minutes was postponed by the Prayer Book controversy and certain other influences.

In August, 1923, the SUNDAY TIMES was able to give an analysis of the Conversations, as represented in the still unpublished documents, but otherwise unknown. Denials were issued of any intention to publish the original minutes, and it was even stated that no such minutes were in existence.

Now, however, the minutes are to be published by the initiator of the Conversations, Lord Halifax, and it can be stated that they bear out in every detail the remarkable revelations made by the SUNDAY TIMES in 1928. The book is to be issued by the firm of Philip Allan under the title "Conversations at Malines: 1921-1925, Consisting of the Original Documents, Edited by Lord Halifax."

ROME'S GESTURE.

The first two conversations, held in December, 1921, and March, 1923, respectively, at Cardinal Mercier's Palace at Malines, were confined to three representatives of the Roman Church and three from the Anglican community—the Cardinal himself, his successor, Monsignor van Roey, and the Abbé Portal were on one side, and Lord Halifax, the Dean of Wells (Dr. Armitage Robinson), and Dr. Frere (now the Bishop of Truro) on the other.

The third and fourth conversations (in November, 1923, and May, 1925) were reinforced on Dr. Davidson's suggestion by the presence of Bishop Gore and Dr. Kidd, the Warden of Keble College, Oxford, while two distinguished ecclesiastics from Paris, Monsignor Batiffol and the Abbé Hemmer, now took their place with the Catholic group. The 1923 sessions were devoted principally to a discussion of the traditional powers of the Pope, and the Anglicans made something of an attack on Peter's supreme position in the early Church, but it was found possible to obtain considerable good will in regard to the "spiritual responsibility" of the Pope.

While the publication of Dr. Davidson's letter provoked a considerable outcry in England at this point, Cardinal Mercier's influence at Rome during the *Anno Santo* of 1925 encouraged a gesture of generosity. He was able to present at the Conference of Malines on May 19 and 20 of that year proposals for the Anglican Church to be "united but not absorbed" in the Church of Rome. The Archbishop was offered (not, of course, as a promise from the Holy See, but undoubtedly with the knowledge of the Vatican) a special jurisdiction under the Roman suzerainty, a special liturgy, freedom to allow uncelibate clergy, and a special patriarchate, which might raise his position to that formerly enjoyed by the Eastern patriarchs and above the precedence of a Cardinal.

SUPPRESSION OF SEES.

This surprising offer, first revealed in the SUNDAY TIMES in 1928, may be supplemented now by further details, which may explain the objections attributed to the Roman Catholic hierarchy to the continuance of the Conversations or to the publication of their proceedings. It was proposed from the Roman side to abrogate the new Roman Sees created here since 1851, and it was suggested in Cardinal Mercier's memorandum that the Sees concerned, from Westminster downwards, should undergo suppression in the same way as Pius VII. took occasion in somewhat similar circumstances to demand the resignations of over 100 French bishops.

As for the cardinals who remained, it was suggested that the Archbishop of Canterbury, with the new rank of "Cardinal-Patriarch," should be given precedence over all cardinal-bishops, cardinal-priests, and deacons. The consent of Rome was not claimed definitely, but an Apostolic letter of Pius XI., written in 1924, and the Apostolic Constitution of November, 1924, were quoted as indications of the special position of England in the eyes of the Holy See.

The Anglicans were unable to make such immense steps to meet their colleagues, but they said they would be ready to recognise the Roman supremacy, though not to define it more closely.

A BRILLIANT WEDDING.

DAUGHTER OF DUKE OF HAMILTON.

CATHEDRAL SCENES

SIXTEEN BRIDESMAIDS IN RAINBOW FROCKS.

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

SALISBURY, Saturday.

In a perfect setting, and accompanied by stately beauty, the wedding took place in Salisbury Cathedral to-day of Lady Margaret Douglas-Hamilton, second daughter of the Duke and Duchess of Hamilton and Brandon, and Mr. James Richardson Drummond-Hay, eldest son of the late Colonel G. A. G. R. Drummond-Hay, of Seggieden, Perth.

Mr. Drummond Hay is 24, and his bride 21.

Many distinguished members of English and Scots families were present in the crowded congregation, and both countries, too, were represented by the officiating clergy. These were the Primus of Scotland, Dr. Roberts, Bishop of Brechin, the Bishop of Salisbury, Dr. Donaldson, the Archdeacon of Sarum, the Ven. H. W. Carpenter, and Canon C. Clarke, rector of Donhead, while the Scottish associations of the families were further emphasised at the close of the ceremony.

ONE THOUSAND GUESTS.

The scene in the cathedral was one of great beauty. There were 1,000 guests. They included the Marquess and Marchioness of Ailesbury, Mary Countess of Clancarty, Priscilla Countess Annesley, the Hon. Mrs. Bowes-Lyon, the Countess of Cromartie, Viscountess Cowdray, Viscountess Coke and the Hon. Sylvia Coke, Viscount and Viscountess Massereene, Blanche Lady Dunbar, Viscount and Viscountess Dunedin, Lord and Lady St. John of Bletso, Lord and Lady Jessel, the Dowager Lady Inverclyde, Baroness de Knoop, Sir Oliver Lodge, the Earl and Countess of Normanton, the Earl and Countess of Pembroke, the Earl and Countess of Shaftesbury, Lord Rollo and Miss Rollo, the Countess of Cassillis, Mrs. Philip Snowden, Admiral Sir Reginald and Lady Tyrwhitt, Lady Tree, Lady Yarrow, Lord and Lady Kylsant, Sir Sydney and Lady Lowe, Baron and Baroness de Lynton, Sir Hugh and Lady Lucas-Tooth, and Sir Henry and Lady Page Croft.

The guests looked with intense delight on the charming young bride at the altar by the side of her tall young bridegroom, whose height is 6 ft. 7 in. When she arrived she appeared at the great west door on the arm of her eldest brother, the Marquess of Douglas and Clydesdale, who escorted her to the altar, and her father gave her away.

The bride's beautiful mediæval gown of cream lame was inter-woven with a myriad threads of gold and silver, which glistened in the mellow light of the cathedral. The neck was cut square, and finished with an edging of tiny orange-blossom and pearl buds to match the girdle that encircled her waist.

A 14 FT. LONG TRAIN.

The 14 ft. long train fell in folds from the waist, and was draped with old Brussels lace. A headdress of orange blossom, pearl buds, and aquamarine leaves held her veil in place, and she carried a shower bouquet of Harissi lilies, lilies-of-the-valley, and white heather. Her only ornament was a blue enamel necklace, which was the wedding necklace of the bridegroom's great-great-great-grandmother.

Sixteen bridesmaids and three pageboys attended the bride. They were:—

Miss Sheena Mackintosh (her niece), the Misses Jane and Catherine Lees and the Misses Anne, Sybil, and Florentia Poore (her cousins), Miss Pamela Bowes-Lyon (cousin of the Duchess of York), Miss Helen Greg, Miss Marion Sale, Princess Sofka Dolgorouky, Miss Elizabeth Murray (cousin of the bridegroom), Miss Joan Jackson, Miss Marjorie Glasgow, Lady Mary Graham, Miss Drummond Hay (sister of the bridegroom), and the Hon. Helen Astley (the fiancée of Mr. Ian Bullock, who, with the bridegroom's brother, Mr. Arthur Drummond Hay, shared the duties of best man).

The little pages in kilts—were Master Thomas Lees (the bride's cousin) and Masters Peter and Alastair Stewart Richardson (cousins of the bridegroom).

Picture frocks in varying shades of net.

Continued on page 19.

Popular Phrases Illustrated

Rubbing it in

When a baby of modest H.P.
Passed a racer as slick as could be
Said the racer, 'What nerve!'
Said the baby, 'Observe,
How much better you'd run on BP!'

The New "BP"

The Better Petrol

ANGLO-PERSIAN OIL CO. LTD
British Petroleum Co. Ltd., Britannic House, Moorgate, E.C.2
Distributing Organization.

The New BP The New BP The New BP The New BP The New BP The New BP The New BP

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THE HYDE PARK BELLS.

HOPE FOR A PERMANENT CARILLON.

QUESTION IN COMMONS TO-MORROW.

In the House of Commons to-morrow Major Graham Pole will ask the First Commissioner of Works whether it is his intention to accept an offer to defray the cost of erecting a permanent carillon of bells in Hyde Park.

In view of the keen public interest that has been taken in the carillon now in Hyde Park, prior to its shipment to New Zealand in the summer, a scheme for a permanent world peace carillon is under the consideration of Mr. Lansbury, the First Commissioner of Works. The temporary erection of the Wellington (New Zealand) memorial carillon in Hyde Park was arranged by the initiative of the *Daily Sketch* and *Sunday Graphic*, and hundreds of thousands of people have listened to the daily recitals.

The popularity of these recitals has induced a large measure of public support for the suggestion for a permanent carillon made at the inaugural luncheon, presided over by Lord Camrose and attended by the Home Secretary (Mr. J. R. Clynes) and the First Commissioner of Works. Subsequently Mr. Lansbury was in correspondence with Lord Camrose on the subject, and there have been discussions between Mr. Lansbury and Mr. Frank Lascot, of the *Daily Sketch* and *Sunday Graphic* with regard to the raising of a national fund.

The programmes of to-day's recitals, to be given by Mr. Clifford Ball, are:—

12.15 to 12.40 p.m.

"Hindu Song" (Rimsky Korsakoff),
"Passing By" (Purcell),
"Minuet" (Beethoven),
"In An Old-fashioned Town,"
"Gavotte" (De Fesch),
"Nocturne" (Chopin).

3.0 to 3.20 p.m.

"Roses of Picardy,"
"Annie Laurie,"
"Largo" (Handel),
"Andantino" (Lemare),
"Londonderry Air,"
"When Other Lips."

7.0 to 7.20 p.m.

"Minuet and Trio" (Mozart),
"Intermezzo" ("Cavalleria Rusticana"),
"Absent,"
"Berceuse De Jocelyn" ("Angels Guard Thee"),
"Love's Old Sweet Song,"
"Abide With Me."

LANGUAGE ENTENTE.

LORD MAYOR AND HIS FOREBEARS.

The Lord Mayor of London (Sir William Waterlow), speaking at the annual banquet of the Société Nationale des Professeurs de Français en Angleterre at the Hotel Cecil last night, said that his own origin was largely French. His family were of Huguenot origin. His ancestors, who then spelt their name Walloon, migrated to French Flanders in 1558 to escape persecution. "They were skilled silk weavers," Sir William said, "and the prosperity of the textile trades of Lille, Roubaix, and Valenciennes he believed was partly due to that migration."

The French Ambassador, M. de Fleurian, who presided, speaking first in English and then in French, said that languages should be learned by ear. "When I was a child," he added, "I mastered Welsh, Breton, Turkish and Arabic. Now I have completely forgotten them all.

PRESENTATION OF DECORATIONS.

The French Ambassador presented the following decorations.

"The Rosette de la Instruction Publique" to Mr. Bosc, and "The Palmes Académiques" to Mdlle. Hankiewisez, M. Regnier, Mdme. de Parrel, and Mdlle. Grellet.

Sir Fabian Ware, referring to the coming official visit of the Lord Mayor to France, said that to the French child there were only two English people who mattered, the Prince of Wales and the Lord Mayor.

The Lord Mayor mentioned that his secretary, Sir William Soulsby, was unable for the first time in forty-five years to attend the gathering.

The guests included, in addition to those named, the Lady Mayoress, Mr. Sheriff and Mrs. Bowater, General Despres (French Military Attaché), Count and Countess La Combe, from the French Embassy; Professor Vaucher, President of the Society; Mr. Dionis des Séjour (chairman of the French Chamber of Commerce), Dr. Cloudesley Brereton, General Vicomte de la Panouse, and Lady Ware.

Earlier in the day the Society's forty-fifth annual meeting was held at the Mansion House.

The Lady Mayoress distributed the prizes. Schools winning the chief awards were:—

Vases offered by the President of the French Republic Francis Holland School, Graham Street, S.E., and St. George's School, Harpenden; Shields offered by La Société Nationale de Professeurs de Francais, Kensington College, Paddington, and The Abbey, Malvern Wells.

WHITE STAR LINE.

NO TRUTH IN REPORTED CHANGE OF CONTROL.

The unconfirmed report current in shipping circles in New York that the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company were negotiating for the sale to Messrs. Furness Withy and Company of their controlling interest in the White Star Line was officially denied yesterday.

An official of Messrs. Furness Withy and Company said: "There is absolutely no truth in the report. It can be officially denied." The report was also officially denied by the Royal Mail Steam Packet Company.

IMPERIAL AND FOREIGN ITEMS.

The through service between Japan and Europe, across Siberia, was opened yesterday and Tokyo despatched the first direct mail since July.

The Yugoslav-Bulgarian Commission, appointed to deal with frontier questions, terminated its work yesterday to the satisfaction of both countries.

In the Egyptian Budget for the current year income is estimated at £E38,066,000 and expenditure at £E44,954,000, the deficit to be made up from the reserve.

General Edward Higgins, of the Salvation Army, and Mrs. Higgins arrived yesterday at Rotterdam in order to preside over the National Congress of the army.

M. Jean Politis, Greek Minister in Berne, has been appointed Minister in Berlin. He represented Greece at the Reparations Conferences in Paris and The Hague.

Pete (Reginald Langhorne) Brooks, a nephew of Lady Astor, has returned to New York after having flown 11,000 miles across the United States, and gone as far south as Mexico City.

Wambo, the giant orang-outang at the Düsseldorf Zoological Gardens, has succumbed to some kind of head trouble. He was the last survivor of twenty-seven captured and shipped to Germany three years ago.

Mgr. Hinsley, Archbishop of Sebastapol, the newly appointed Apostolic Delegate to East Africa, was yesterday received in private audience of the Pope. He will leave Naples to take up his new post on Saturday.

The well-known naturalist, Professor Benoit Dybowski, who made a special study of the fauna in Siberia, has died at Popol at the age of 95. Professor Dybowski was the author of celebrated works on zoology and palæontology.

A painting of the Royal Calpe Hunt by Lionel Edwards was presented by the Governor of Gibraltar at a hunt dinner on Friday night to Colonel Price Davies, V.C., who has been an enthusiastic follower of the hunt while stationed on the Rock.

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MR. MILNE'S NEW PLAY.

"MICHAEL AND MARY" AT ST. JAMES'S.

A DIVERSION ON BIGAMY

By JAMES AGATE.

"Michael and Mary," a new play by A. A. Milne, was given a first performance at the St. James's Theatre, London, last night.

Michael and Mary are spiritual lovers living in the same house but on different landings, to which, after their landlady's bedtime, they stedfastly adhere. Michael is one of those fascinating authors gifted with a peculiar insight into the child-mind. He writes an article on the thoughts passing in the mind of his landlady's baby, still at the breast. This article is accepted by a newspaper—for newspapers have to be filled—and Michael is "made."

Then Michael's father, a padre with notions dating from the "Trilby" period, appears, and, hearing of Mary, quotes some admirable Milton, and offers his son some admirable advice. But Michael counters with a quotation from Shakespeare about the nettle of danger, and plucking from it the flower of danger, he alters the last word to self-respect. For he knows something that his father does not know. Mary is married to a scamp who has deserted her.

But this capping of quotations goes to Michael's head, and he determines that he and Mary shall acquire self-respect, rather in the Buddhist fashion of acquiring virtue, by marriage. It is true that Mary, if the crime were found out, and not he, would be "for it," in the slang phrase. But Michael will say he told Mary her husband was dead.

Anyhow, they marry, because the ceremony, though illegal, will sanctify something at which, in George Eliot's day, people would have raised Victorian eyebrows. Confidently they deceive parson, lawyer, and the neighbourhood, for among the poetry stored in Michael's mind there is no room for that bit of doggerel about the tangled webs which are the inevitable fruit of deceit.

Thirteen years have elapsed. The ménage has prospered, and there are thirty-five tulips on the window-ledge. Michael and Mary have a boy, David, at school, and one of his letters is the occasion for an interlude of parental ecstasy with which Mr. Milne's admirers will be in no wise disappointed. But Nemesis is behind the door, wearing the short jacket, trousers, and button-hole of that bounder and scoundrel, Mary's first husband. The usual scene. Everybody calls everybody else's bluff. Michael begins to throw the blackmailer out of the flat, whereupon he dies of heart disease. What to do now? Summon the police and tell the truth? No, for Mary would get "time" for bigamy. She wouldn't, of course, or only so much as she could do on her pretty head. So they decide to make up a yarn.

The spinning and rehearsal of the yarn are the great scene of the play. The police are duly hoodwinked, and ten years duly pass. David is now secretly married, and Michael and Mary have no sooner finished telling him about their early predicament when one of the hoodwinked constables turns up with news of a clue to the identity of the man who died of heart disease.

The play ends with the sword of Damocles hanging over the charming heads of Mr. Herbert Marshall and Miss Edna Best. But we feel that the sword has got used to hanging and will stick it a bit longer. A very pleasant and agreeable evening's entertainment, in consequence of which the law relating to bigamy may or may not be altered. Mr. D. A. Clarke-Smith, as the blackmailer, gave a rattling good performance, and the two principals were at their best.

PRINCESS'S ROMANCE.

DIVORCE SEQUEL IN U.S. COURT.

NEW YORK, Saturday.

Mrs. William B. Leeds, formerly Princess Xenia of Russia, has obtained an interlocutory decree of divorce from her husband, Mr. William B. Leeds, jun., the son of the tin-plate magnate.

The judge, who signed the decree in the Brooklyn Supreme Court, announced that it was based upon the findings of the referee in the divorce suit, and he was unaware of the grounds upon which the action was based.

Princess Xenia married Mr. Leeds in Paris in October, 1921. Both were only 19 at the time, and the marriage was opposed by Mrs Leeds's mother, Princess Anastasia of Greece. To-day's announcement was the first public intimation that there was any domestic trouble between the wealthy young Long Island sportsman and his wife, and caused a great sensation in society circles.—*Reuter.*

WALK FROM RUSSIA.

NO TRANSPORT FACILITIES FOR CHINESE.

NANKING, Saturday.

The Soviet authorities have, it is stated here, refused to extend transportation facilities to Chinese citizens held in Russia, and many are returning to China on foot.

Marshal Chang Hsueh-Liang, the Governor-General of Manchuria, is reported to have left for Nanking.—*Reuter.*

LATE NEWS

ENGLAND v. WEST INDIES.

CLOSE OF PLAY.

England's innings closed at 4.55 with a score of 208. West Indies lost one wicket for 27 runs.

M.C.C.

Ames, c Achong, b Constantine, 42; Hon. F. S. G. Calthorpe, c Constantine, b Griffiths, 12; Rhodes, lbw, b Griffiths, 2; Voce, not out, 2; extras, 10.

Total, 208.

Earlier scores on page 24, col. 6.

SEVENTEENTH CENTURY LONDON.

[Specially drawn for the SUNDAY TIMES by Hanslip Fletcher.

No. 41, Beak Street, W., where Antonio Canaletto (1697-1768), the celebrated Venetian painter, lived for a time. Several of his paintings of London are in the Italian Art Exhibition at Burlington House.

SERAJEVO MURDER MEMORIAL.

EFFECT OF PROTESTS.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

PRAGUE, Saturday.

Many newspapers here reprint articles from British newspapers protesting against the unveiling of the memorial to Gabriel Princip, murderer of the Archduke Ferdinand at Serajevo in June, 1914.

The Government of Yugoslavia has now prohibited all festivities and speeches in connection with the function to-morrow, and will permit only a private unveiling by the relatives of the murderer. The memorial is in the form of a commemorative tablet placed on the spot where the Archduke was killed.

It was originally stated that the tablet had been made a year and a-half ago by the Serajevo section of the Narodna Odbrana (National Defence), but it is now officially stated that the tablet has been erected by the family and friends of Gabriel Princip.

The Yugoslav Government states that it cannot interfere with the private initiative of those who erected the tablet, but no authorities or associations will be represented at the unveiling.

TEST TEAM PROTEST.

VICTORIA INDIGNANT AT DROPPING OF RYDER.

MELBOURNE, Saturday.

It is a long time since anything in sport has stirred the Victorian public so deeply as the rejection of Ryder for the Test team has done.

The *Melbourne Herald* has received a wire from the Victorian captain in Brisbane, expressing thanks for the sympathy shown to him, but saying that he prefers to let the matter drop.

In response to a request from all sections of the community of Collingwood, the suburb of Melbourne for which Ryder plays, and where he is idolised as a sportsman, the Mayor has called a public protest meeting for the end of next week. Ryder himself, with the three selected Victorians, Woodfull, A'Becket, and Ponsford, will be invited to attend; but, in view of Victoria's match in Brisbane, it is doubtful if Ryder will be there.

The meeting will pass a resolution of protest. "Seeing that only three Victorians have been selected," says the Mayor, "it is time that all cricket supporters in Melbourne followed Collingwood's example." The Mayor finds fault not with the Board of Control, but with the selectors. "None," he says, "should be included in the team for any other reason than that his performance fully warrants it."—*Reuter.*

NEW REGIME IN SPAIN

THE PRIME MINISTER PROMISES REFORMS.

MADRID, Saturday.

It is announced that a wide measure of amnesty will be proclaimed next Thursday, which is the anniversary of the death of Queen Christina.

General Berenguer, the new Prime Minister, to-day received a number of deputations, including one of officers. He informed the latter that the Government proposed to introduce reforms into the Army.

It is reported that either Señor Torno, Rector, or Señor Sainz, one of the professors of Madrid University, will be appointed Minister of Public Instruction. Señor Lobera, Mayor of Madrid, has been appointed Director of Spanish Colonies in Morocco.

The Executive Committee of the Press Association of Madrid are to call upon General Berenguer and ask him to restore the liberty of the Press and to see that the Sunday holiday for Spanish newspapermen is maintained. Measures will also be taken to restore to their posts a number of professors dismissed by the Dictatorship, and the Ateneo Literary Club, which was closed a few days ago by the police, will be reopened.

On April 7 the new Madrid Press Association building will be formally opened in the presence of the King and Cabinet.—*Reuter.*

BRITISH SHIP'S S.O.S.

VESSELS IN DANGER IN SUDDEN GALE.

LORIENT, Saturday.

The military wireless station of Pen-Mane has received an S.O.S. message from the British steamer Willowpark, which is in distress in 46 deg. 23 long. N. and 17 deg. lat. W.

A violent storm suddenly broke over the entire Brittany coast yesterday, accompanied by torrential rain. Many ships were taken by surprise, and it is feared that several boats are in danger.—*Exchange.*

[The Willowpark is given in Ll d's Register as a steel screw steamer of 1,931 tons, belonging to the Denholm Shipping Co., Ltd.]

The steamer Gatwick (1,379 tons), of London, bound from Southampton, stranded yesterday off Methil, on the Firth of Forth coast. The crew of fifteen was rescued by the Rocket Brigade.

The Standard oil tanker Libre, on her way to Beaumont, Texas, from the Gulf of Mexico, reports, says a Reuter message, the sinking of the tugboat Edgar F. Coney seventy miles south-east of Port Arthur while towing a barge to Mobile. There is no trace of the crew of thirteen.

Nothing has been heard of the Spanish steamer Ciervana (1,264 tons) since she left Cadiz on January 22 for Pasajes, and it is feared she has foundered with her crew of nineteen.

The battle cruiser squadron, consisting of Renown, Repulse, and Tiger, encountered a gale on its way to Gibraltar to join the Atlantic Fleet. It is understood, says the Exchange, that the Tiger sustained some damage. The destroyer Versatile, which went ashore in harbour at Gibraltar after dragging her anchors during the gale, was refloated yesterday only slightly damaged.

THE FARMERS' CAUSE.

LORD BEAVERBROOK ON MR. LLOYD GEORGE.

Lord Beaverbrook, addressing a meeting at Canterbury yesterday arranged by the Canterbury Branch of the National Farmers' Union, referred to a speech in the House of Commons last Wednesday by Mr. Lloyd George.

"There he stood," said Lord Beaverbrook, "with his beautiful white locks. Not one word of argument or reason in what he was saying. There was jest and joke about Empire Free Trade, but no mention of the unemployed. Mr. Lloyd George made some magnificently grandiose statements. He said, for instance, that Great Britain imports annually a hundred million tons of wheat. He is only ninety-four million tons out. Mr. Lloyd George is beginning to grasp the bigness of the British Empire. As he gets older he talks in millions, and the more his party dwindles the more his figures grow. In his hundred millions speech Mr. Lloyd George went on to say that the Empire cannot feed itself. Well, I sent him 'Whitaker's Almanack' for 1930, and I have asked him to put on his spectacles and read page 58, and there he will see that the Empire produced 30,000,000 quarters of wheat more than the country's requirements."

"Mr. Lloyd George," added Lord Beaverbrook, "made his speech for the benefit of the Tory Free Importers. Why was he speaking for the Tory Free Importers? It was because they wanted another Liberal and Conservative coalition. Mr. Lloyd George was looking at the problem of Empire Free Trade from the point of view of party advantage, and recklessly disregarding the conditions of those in want."

MR. J. H. THOMAS.

Mr. J. H. Thomas, Lord Privy Seal, is confined to his house suffering with a cold.

On inquiry last night it was stated that he hopes to be at his normal work to-morrow.

RAILWAY DEATH MYSTERY.

The body found on the railway line at Otford, Huntingdonshire, on Friday, is believed to be that of George Barron, a groom to Major Lord Hay, Second Grenadier Guards, of Duns Castle, Berwickshire, who was taking a horse from Duns to Aldershot.

FIVE YEARS OF LIFE FORGOTTEN.

MYSTERY OF A CLERK'S WANDERINGS.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

MANCHESTER, Saturday.

Mr. Edmund Rose, the 54-years-old Liverpool clerk who was found wandering almost in a state of collapse and now lies in Nell Lane Hospital, Withington, is still unable to give any account of his adventures during his five years' mysterious absence from home.

A curious coincidence is that a great-uncle of Rose disappeared in similar circumstances many years ago. He left his home after dinner to return to his work and was never seen again. A few weeks after his disappearance his hat was found on the canal bank near Hyde, and it was thought that whilst out for a walk he may have fallen into the water, but the body was never found.

The mother of Mr. Edmund Rose, who lives in Great Norbury Street, Hyde, told me to-day that she had decided not to question Rose too much about his experiences until he was in a better state of health.

The Mayor of Hyde, Mr. Thomas Middleton, could offer no explanation of Rose's conduct.

"The whole thing is a mystery to me," he said, "for, knowing Mr. Rose as I do, it was the last thing I should have expected to happen to him. His home life was very happy, he had a good job, and he was highly respected.

"The only solution I can put forward is that a complaint that Rose suffered from affected his memory. The last time I saw him he complained that he was suffering from severe headaches." The Mayor added that Rose was an exceptionally intelligent man, who took a great interest in all matters affecting education and music.

THE SICK LIST.

LORD GLADSTONE'S SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT.

Reports of notable invalids issued last night were as follows:—

MADAME KIRKBY LUNN.—A quiet day, but very weak.

LORD GLADSTONE.—A slight improvement.

LORD GLENARTHUR.—Still improving.

THE HON. WALTER BOYLE.—Operation for appendicitis, making satisfactory progress.

STEEL CARTEL.

INTERNATIONAL SELLING OFFICES CREATED.

BRUSSELS, Saturday.

Negotiations in Paris between German, Belgian, French, and Luxemburg steel groups have resulted in an agreement to establish International selling offices for half-finished products, small girders, large iron sheets, hoop, iron etc.

The offices in question are established provisionally for six months, and function as from to-day. The sales will provisionally be executed by the works themselves or national offices. Present export prices being considered as inadequate, it has been decided to hold a meeting here on February 13 to fix a new price scale.—*Reuter.*

ORATORY SCHOOLS.

New buildings have been added to the Oratory Central Schools in Stewarts' Grove, Fulham.

The schools serve a purpose far exceeding the limits of the parish to which in name they belong. Children travel from a wide area north and south of the Thames, and for years the demand for places has far exceeded the supply. The new block, which has now been added to the designs of Mr. Christian Barman, is the third of a group of buildings, the first of which was erected in 1899.

THE PRINCE'S COLD.

VISIT TO A MINE ABANDONED.

TWO ROUNDS OF GOLF.

JOHANNESBURG, Saturday.

The Golden City gave a golden morning for the arrival of the Prince of Wales. It was a perfect summer's day after a night of rain.

All the arrangements were quite informal in accordance with the wish expressed by the Prince. Around the station were perhaps three hundred people, including a good sprinkling of natives. When the Prince of Wales's coach had drawn up alongside the platform it was learned that the programme would have to be modified as the Prince had caught a slight cold while visiting the battlefields yesterday, and in consequence his visit to the Crown mines, where he wished to go down the deepest shaft, had been cancelled. A game of golf in the glorious sunshine has been planned instead.

When the Prince of Wales stepped from his coach to enter the motor-car in which he was to drive to the Country Club, it was evident that he was suffering from a cold, but nevertheless he found time to converse with the Administrator of the Transvaal, Mr. J. S. Ismit, who had come from Pretoria to bid His Royal Highness welcome, and to the Mayor of Johannesburg and Sir William Dalrymple, representing the Chamber of Mines.

BOUQUET FROM A BABY.

Just as the Prince was leaving he saw a tiny girl, in a dainty white frock, with a bunch of flowers and ferns. He called Colonel Godley's attention to her, and the Colonel ran up and brought her back to the Prince. His Royal Highness smilingly took the flowers and shook hands with the delighted tiny tot.

After a rest and breakfast, the Prince of Wales's cold was much better, and he played a round of golf with Lieut.-Col. the Hon. Piers Legh, his Equerry, who won by two up. The Prince lunched with his staff at the Country Club, and afterwards played a round of golf on the Johannesburg club course at Orange Grove.

It is understood that as a result of his exercise in the open air to-day the Prince of Wales feels much better, and has practically shaken off his cold.

In the evening the Prince resumed his journey northwards. He was seen off by a cheering crowd at the station.—*Reuter.*

BUSINESS IN U.S.

MR. CHURCHILL'S KEEN SURVEY.

Mr. Winston Churchill devotes an article which will appear in to-morrow's *Daily Telegraph* to business in America, and explains how it permeates the whole life of the nation.

It is business men, he says, who are the leaders of society, which, in the United States, has no exclusive aristocracy, of landed interests, or naval and military circles enjoying social prestige as in England. To high and low alike, business is the calling which offers the greatest rewards, and American industry attracts to itself the ablest and keenest brains of the nation.

In the great workshops such as those of the Bethlehem Steel Company, Mr. Churchill finds that few workmen were trade unionists, but nevertheless it was a committee of workmen employed under the management who had sole power to dismiss a man for default after inquiry. Everything was done to link up the interests of the workmen with the prosperity of the firm, and they were encouraged to become stock holders, while workmen were themselves keen to put down any abuse which they felt would retard that prosperity.

Where all are out to make the most for themselves, Mr. Churchill says, labour troubles are little known.

STATE ECONOMIC COUNCIL.

MR. MACDONALD'S TASK OF SELECTION.

NAMES THIS WEEK.

There is much speculation as to who will comprise the "such other persons chosen by the Prime Minister in virtue of their special knowledge and experience in industry and economics" for membership of the Economic Advisory Council.

So far the only certain name for membership of the Council is that of Mr. H. D. Henderson, until recently editor of the *Nation*. This appointment has been made without regard to politics, and Mr. Henderson's colleagues will be chosen on precisely the same basis. Mr. Henderson represents what is known as the Cambridge School of Economists, which is regarded, not only in this country but in many others, as making the most important contribution to modern economic thought.

PARTY CONSULTATIONS.

The SUNDAY TIMES learns that, contrary to expectation, Mr G. D. H. Cole, another prominent economist, who has long been closely associated with the Labour Party, and has written a great deal about modern Labour development, will not be one of Mr. Henderson's colleagues. Mr. MacDonald, who is anxious that the Advisory Council shall be as far as possible in line with the wishes of all the three great parties, has consulted Conservative and Liberal opinion regarding its composition.

Up to yesterday the Prime Minister had not decided upon the panel of leading business men, representative of all the great industries, whom he desires to sit with members of the Government on the Council. He is giving very close personal attention to the selection of these men, and expressed to a colleague a wish to shut himself away for a few hours in order that he might in quietude determine who shall be invited to participate in its deliberations. This he is likely to do during the week-end, and an announcement may be expected early this week.

According to present intentions, there will not be more than one representative of each of the leading industries, such as coal, iron and steel, shipping, cotton, wool, engineering, building, and transport.

CAIRO-CAPE FLIGHT.

PUNCTUAL ARRIVAL OF R.A.F. AEROPLANES.

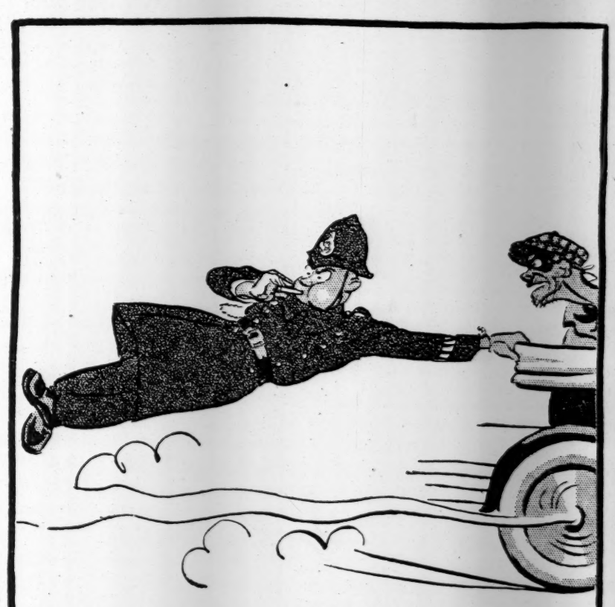
CAPE TOWN, Saturday.

The four R.A.F. aeroplanes taking part in the annual flight from Cairo to Cape Town have reached their destination with the punctuality of an express train, arriving here this morning.

When the aeroplanes left Cairo on January 11, February 1 was fixed as the date on which they were to reach Cape Town, and, despite very bad weather over Rhodesia, they have kept to their time-table.

The personnel was provided by the 14th Bombing Squadron stationed at Amman, Transjordan, and the flight was under the command of Flight-Lieutenant C. B. Greet, accompanied by Air Commodore A. G. Board. Commodore Board was the victim of slight concussion as the result of a motor-car accident in Bulawayo, when the car in which he was driving with the Mayor and Mayoress collided with a motor cycle. This accident was the only serious incident in the course of the flight.—*Reuter.*

The R.A.F. aeroplanes are remaining at Cape Town till Tuesday.—*Exchange.*



Quick-starting bandits use SHELL OIL & PETROL The quick-starting pair

Court Circular.

SANDRINGHAM, Saturday.

The Rev. Patrick McCormick has arrived at Sandringham

Lieut.-Colonel the Lord Alastair Innes-Ker has succeeded Captain the Lord Claud Hamilton as Equerry in Waiting to the King.

The Lady Desborough and the Lady Cynthia Colville have succeeded the Lady Ampthill and the Lady Elizabeth Motion as Ladies in Waiting to the Queen.

The Prince of Wales has announced his intention of attending the annual show of the Bath and West and Southern Counties Society at Torquay in the summer.

Prince George will be the guest of honour at the twelfth festival banquet of the National Advertising Benevolent Society at the Connaught Rooms on March 28. Sir Gomer Berry, the president, will preside.

Madame Ferid Bey, the wife of the Turkish Ambassador, has returned to London from the Continent.

The Marquess and Marchioness of Abergavenny will leave Eridge Castle to-morrow for Algiers.

The Earl and Countess of Midleton will return to-morrow from Peper Harow, Godalming, to 34, Portland Place.

Earl and Countess Grey will arrive at 33, Eaton Place to-morrow from Howick Hall, Northumberland. They are expected to leave town again for the country on Wednesday.

Countess Beauchamp will arrive at 13, Belgrave Square this week from St. Giles's House, Salisbury.

The Earl and Countess of Stradbroke yesterday left 26, Belgrave Square after a brief visit, and returned to Henham Hall.

The Earl and Countess of Lindsay will return to 23, Berkeley Square to-morrow from Kilconquhar House, Fife.

The Earl and Countess of Lytton and the Ladies Hermione and Davina Lytton have arrived at 18, Buckingham Gate, S.W., from Knebworth.

The Earl and Countess of Brecknock have arrived at Westbourne House, Westbourne Street W.2, which is now their permanent address.

The Earl of Stair was 51 yesterday, and the Earl of Shannon 30. Lord Ashtown is 62 to-day, and Lord Swinfen 26.

Viscount and Viscountess Bridgeman have taken 48, Eaton Place, S.W.1, from February 3 until Easter.

Field-Marshal Viscount Allenby and Viscountess Allenby will return to London on March 2 from India.

Field-Marshal Viscount Plumer and Viscountess Plumer have left London for the Italian Riviera, and will be away until the middle of March.

Lady Balniel will return to 1, Bryanston Place early this week from Paris.

Lord Bledisloe, Governor-General Designate of New Zealand, and Lady Bledisloe will leave London on February 14 for New Zealand.

Lord and Lady Dunsany will leave India on February 22 for England.

Lord and Lady Rayleigh expect to arrive at 69, Cadogan Square on February 10 from Terling Place, Witham.

Lady Suffield has postponed her return from Amroth Castle, Pembrokeshire, and will not arrive at 35, Eaton Square until Tuesday.

Lord and Lady Russell of Liverpool have left for the South of France, and will be away about three weeks.

Lady Glentanar yesterday left 11, Hill Street, Berkeley Square, for Forest of Glen Tanar, Aboyne, where she will be joined by Lord Glentanar, who will leave Town to-night.

Lord and Lady Wraxall have arrived at 81, Eaton Square from the Continent.

Lord and Lady Olivier have returned to the Old Hall, Ramsden, from America.

Lady Wolverton will return to 26, St. James's Place from Cannes about February 14.

Sir Graham and Lady Wood sailed from Tilbury yesterday for a six weeks' tour in Egypt.

Major Sir Harmood and Lady Harmood-Banner have arrived at Bath from Montgomery.

Sir Edwin Lutyens will return to 13, Mansfield Street on Saturday from India.

Brigadier-General Sir Frederick and Lady Gascoigne and Miss Mary Gascoigne have arrived at 116, Sloane Street, S.W.1, which they have taken for two months.

Sir Cecil and Lady Beatrice Lister-Kaye yesterday left Tilbury for the Mediterranean and the East.

Sir Eric and Lady Hambro have left for South America, and will be away for some months.

Sir George and the Hon. Lady Barstow arrive at 36, Sussex Gardens this week-end, on their return from a six weeks' visit to Persia.

BISHOPS FROM EAST-END.

Speaking at the opening of a social club at Becontree yesterday, Mr. George Lansbury, First Commissioner of Works, said:—

"Of East London it has often been said that the people are not quite like ordinary people. One thing is true of us, that out of Poplar, Bow, and Bromley there have gone Bishops, Members of Parliament, Cabinet Ministers, Deans, Canons and other vulgar people.

"Yet I think if I were asked what was the best thing in the East End of London, I should say the spirit of comradeship and brotherhood that has been created down there. It is a very great thing indeed that poor people can find joy in a great idealism."

LADY HAIG AND POPPY DAY.

Lady Haig, who is visiting Princess Mary Countess of Harewood at Goldsborough Hall, was an unexpected speaker at the annual conference of the Yorkshire Area of the British Legion at Leeds yesterday.

Addressing the assembly as "Comrades of My Husband,' she said she had found, going around the branches, that the burning question was what was the best day for the selling of poppies. She at first felt very strongly that there could only be one day—Armistice Day—but she now realised that it would be very hard for them in the provinces to stick to that day, but with the suggestion that the selling day should follow Armistice Day she did not agree. If not on Armistice Day, it should be before it, so that the poppy should be universally worn on the great day.

The charge for Society Announcements on this page is one guinea for three lines or less and 5s. for each line after. A line contains about seven words. All announcements are subject to editorial approval, and should be addressed to the Social Editor, "Sunday Times," 186, Strand, W.C.2.

PLEA FOR MOTHERS

MRS. BALDWIN ON LACK OF ANÆSTHETICS.

NEEDLESS SUFFERING.

"Nobody ever thinks of the mothers; they belong to the silent service," Mrs. Baldwin said yesterday, when discussing with a representative of the SUNDAY TIMES her appeal for funds to provide anæsthetics in maternity cases for poor mothers.

"For years," she continued, "women have undergone suffering in childbirth which, to a great extent, could be alleviated, but just because, possibly due to prejudice, people say childbirth is a natural thing, they have never had the privilege of the merciful oblivion their wealthier sisters may enjoy if they so wish. People are apt to forget that, owing to civilisation, we are not in a state of nature any longer, and child-bearing becomes an increasing burden on womanhood.

"Nearly every mother suffers badly from shock after her baby is born. The shock is doubled when the ordeal has to be undergone without the kindly aid of anæsthetics. In some cases I have heard of mothers who, not being able to afford it, have never enjoyed good health afterwards, and so they have vowed, 'Never again!'

"The birth rate is falling, can you wonder?" exclaimed Mrs. Baldwin. "I feel convinced that if anæsthetics were more generally available to those people who cannot pay for them, there would not be nearly so much talk about birth control."

THE "HUSH-HUSH" ATTITUDE.

"You would be surprised to know how ignorant the public are of these things, simply because the Victorian Hush! Hush! attitude about childbirth still lingers.

"I remember that when I was a girl in my 'teens I used to hear my mother talking with friends in a hushed voice about such things, and I could only guess they were discussing babies.

"Under present law, I believe no anæsthetic may be administered except in the presence of a doctor. This entails a specially qualified person in attendance, and the provision would need a considerable capital sum for his or her salary, and possibly extra accommodation. No hospital, I am told, with its already heavy expenses, is able to bear this unaided. The only alternative would be to empower a midwife or trained nurse to administer anæsthetics, but this, I believe, would need a new Act of Parliament."

Mrs. Baldwin is busy organising an appeal for funds, the interest on which will be divided amongst every hospital and institution taking maternity cases, so that they may give expectant mothers protection from pain when their time comes. She will work in conjunction with the National Birthday Trust Fund, of whose finance committee Lord Ebbisham is chairman.

POOR MOTHER'S EXAMPLE.

Since sending out her appeal last Monday Mrs. Baldwin has already received between £500 and £600. "Most of it is in small sums," she said, "from poor mothers who could only afford in some cases one shilling—noble examples to their wealthier sisters.

"I have had this subject at heart for years. In our very early married life, my husband and I were not content till we had saved enough money to provide our district with a maternity nurse, because we were so appalled by the haphazard way in which babies were brought into the world.

"Many years later we went to No. 10, Downing Street, but still I could not do much for the mothers, keenly as I wanted to. It might have been called a political stunt, and I could not have borne that.

"But now I am away from there, I can go ahead with the work. I am writing to all the provosts in Scotland and all the mayors of England and Wales asking for one day in the year to be recognised as 'Mothers' Day'—a day on which public collections may be made in the streets for the alleviation of suffering in childbirth. We want a Mothers' Day just like Alexandra Rose Day and Poppy Day.

"Yes," she smiled in answer to my query, "I am financing the appeal myself, and bang go all my next summer frocks. But if I can do anything towards helping our mothers—those brave members of the silent service—I shall feel I have not lived in vain."

DUKE OF PORTLAND.

HONOURED BY NOTTS FREEMASONS.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

NOTTINGHAM, Saturday.

Freemasons of Nottinghamshire to-day paid their tribute to the Duke of Portland, who this week celebrated the fiftieth anniversary of his accession to the title and the estates.

For thirty-two years the Duke has been Grand Master of the Province, and since he succeeded to the office, previously held by the late Duke, there has been a striking growth of Freemasonry in Nottingham.

Members of the craft yesterday presented the Duke with an illuminated address on vellum enclosed in a blue leather cover, the presentation being made by the Hon. G. V. A. Monckton-Arundell, of Serlby Hall, who was recently installed in the chair of the newly consecrated London-Nottinghamshire lodge.

The address referred to the wonderful deepening of Masonic principles which has taken place in Nottinghamshire since the Duke became Provincial Grand Master owing to the example he has set by his wise counsel and guidance.

U.S. STONE IN BRITISH BRIDGE.

Stone quarried at Weymouth, Massachusetts, has been shipped to Weymouth, England, to be built into the new £99,000 bridge, to be opened in June, when a deputation from Weymouth (Mass.) will be present.

ROYAL INTEREST IN OPERA.

The King and Queen have granted their patronage to the forthcoming season of opera at Covent Garden, and have again taken the Royal box for the season, which begins on Monday, April 28.

THE LEGION BOOK.

The Football Association has sent a cheque for fifty guineas to Admiral Sir Lionel Halsey, Controller and Treasurer to the Prince of Wales, in response to the Prince's Legion Book appeal to sports organisations.

400 MILES NON-STOP.

Next summer the L.M.S. Royal Scot expresses in both directions, between Euston, Glasgow and Edinburgh, are to be run via Carlisle as non-station-stop trains, and in the height of the season it is likely that the 400 miles journey will be performed as an actual non-stop run. Both will be several miles longer than the Flying Scotsman journeys between King's Cross and Edinburgh.

Driver Edward Stones, of London, holds the record for the journey from Euston to Carlisle, which he covered in 5 hr. 34 min.

LIFEBOAT THANK-OFFERING.

The Royal National Life-Boat Institution has received from the Britain Steamship Company a gift of 100 guineas "as some recognition of the fine work done by the Angle and St. David's motor lifeboats," when the company's vessel Molesey, of London, was wrecked off the coast of Pembrokeshire last November.

A whole gale was blowing at the time. Both boats were out all night, and it was not until daybreak that the Angle boat found the wreck.

The actual work of rescue was very dangerous, but the lifeboat rescued twenty-eight survivors, including two women and a man whose legs had been broken. The St. David's boat found the wreck shortly after the Angle boat had completed the rescue.

This was one of the outstanding lifeboat services of the year, and Coxswain Watkins, of Angle, was awarded the Institution's bronze medal.

18 GREAT DAYS AT ST. PAUL'S.

FESTIVAL TO MARK THE RE-OPENING.

400 ROBED CLERGY.

Four thousand people are expected at St. Paul's Cathedral on each evening of the great festival which will mark the complete restoration of the Cathedral to public worship. There will also be 400 robed clergy seated in the choir.

The festival will extend from June 25 to July 12. Nine official services are being arranged. The first of these will be the re-opening thanksgiving service, to which the King has accepted an invitation, at noon on June 25, when the Archbishop of Canterbury will preach.

While details of the vast programme cannot yet be announced, Canon Alexander, the Treasurer of St. Paul's, gave a reporter yesterday some information concerning the three "great days" which have been set apart, immediately following the reopening, for special observation by the people of the Diocese of London.

POPULAR SERVICES.

The Bishops of Liverpool, Lichfield, and Southwark will be the preachers in the evenings on June 26, 27, and 28 respectively, the three days to be observed by the Archdeaconries of London, Hampstead, and Middlesex. There will be three services each day, at 10 a.m., 4 p.m., and 8 p.m., but at the evening service tickets will be required.

Churchpeople who wish to be present at these, said Canon Alexander, will be able to obtain tickets from the local clergy, not from the Cathedral. Tickets will be issued early in May. These special services will be of a popular kind, with the full Cathedral choir leading the congregational singing.

FLIGHT-LIEUT. GREIG.

BIRTHDAY WEDDING OF NOTED AIRMAN.

Flight-Lieut. D'Arcy Greig who won third place for England in the Schneider Trophy race last September, with a speed of 282 miles per hour, was married at St. Barnabas Church, Bexhill, yesterday, to Miss Lorna Dean.

Both bride and bridegroom are popular figures in the town, and they had a great reception from a crowd of several thousands. Flight-Lieut. Greig was 30 yesterday. He is the youngest son of the late Mr. H. R. W. Greig, of Demerra and Elgin (Scotland), and Mrs. Greig, of Draycot, Buckhurst Road, Bexhill. Yesterday he wore the D.F.C., which he won in Iraq in 1921, and was attended by his friend, Flight-Lieut. Beilby.

It was hoped that the Schneider Cup pilots would have formed a guard of honour, but this was impossible, as two of them are on foreign service. The team was represented by Flight-Lieut. Atcherley, and Air Force colours lent a picturesque and appropriate touch to the scene.

The bride was attired in ivory georgette with a Brussels net veil. She was accompanied by local girl friends, the Misses Billy Kirton, Betty Holford, Mary Cunningham, and Barbara Davies. The honeymoon is being spent at Bournemouth. Flight-Lieut. Greig goes to Iraq in March, and will be accompanied by his wife.

Congratulations and presents were received from members of the flying service, and a public gift from the Mayor, Corporation and townspeople of Bexhill.

LATE LADY READING.

FUNERAL AND MEMORIAL SERVICE PLANS.

The funeral of Lady Reading will take place to-day at 12 o'clock at the Jewish Cemetery, Hoop Lane, Golder's Green. In accordance with Jewish custom, no ladies will attend.

Cremation of the body will have taken place previously, and quite privately. Thus those attending the funeral will assemble at the cemetery. Rabbi Simon of the Upper Berkeley Street Synagogue, will officiate.

A memorial service will be held on Tuesday at 4.30, at the Upper Berkeley Street Synagogue.

In response to the message from Lord Irwin, Viceroy of India, expressing India's sorrow at the passing of an ex-Vicerene, the Marquess of Reading has replied:—

"I am profoundly touched by your message, and am most grateful to you and Lady Irwin for your sympathy, and for the high appreciation you express on behalf of yourself and countless Indians for her efforts to help those most in need of assistance.

"It is consoling to know that grateful memory of her will be preserved in India. To the last, she maintained her deep interest in India, and especially in problems affecting the poorer women and children of India."

BELVOIR HUNT MASTERSHIP.

There is likely to be a change in the Mastership of the Belvoir Hunt at the end of the present season.

Mr. Peter Akroyd, who is joint master with Mr. Charles Tonge, has decided to retire owing to his military duties preventing him devoting sufficient time to the hunt.

The present masters succeeded Mr. Marshall O. Roberts in 1928.

THE LICENSING COMMISSION.

The Royal Commission on Licensing (England and Wales) will hold its twenty-first and twenty-second public meetings at Broadway Buildings at 11 a.m. each day on Tuesday and Wednesday.

Evidence will be heard on Tuesday from Mr. R. E. Bruce Beal, Clerk to the Licensing Justices for the Tower and Paddington Divisions of London, and the Deputy Chief Constable of Carmarthenshire; and on Wednesday from Mr. A. Bodvel Roberts, Clerk to the Licensing Committee for Carnarvonshire; and Sir Josiah Stamp.

ACTOR'S PART AT WEDDING.

Miss Janet Hamerton will be given away by her brother-in-law, Mr. Allan Jeayes, the actor, to-morrow, when she marries at St. Dominic's Church, Hampstead, Mr. John Bulger, who is well known in hunting and racing circles in England and Ireland.

Miss Hamerton is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. D. J. G. Hamerton, of Rottingdean, Brighton. She has won many prizes for her golden Labradors. The bridegroom, who is the son of Captain D. D. Bulger, of Haverstock Hill, N.W., has a post in the Nigerian Civil Service.

L.C.C. AID TO INDUSTRY.

To encourage British industry, the L.C.C. has accepted a British tender for nails which is 16 per cent. above the lowest foreign tender.

MODERN DUTCH PRINTING.

The Exhibition of Modern Dutch Printing, shortly to be held at the First Edition Club, 17, Bedford Square, holds great interest for English people, since it was in the old Flemish town of Bruges that the art of printing really began. William Caxton, who was Governor of the Corporation of Merchant Adventurers in the Netherlands, was favoured by the intellectual and artistic atmosphere of the rich Court of the Dukes of Burgundy. The first English-printed book, "The Recuyell of the Histories of Troy," was published at his printing office in Bruges, and shortly afterwards he established himself in Westminster as a printer.

Other arrangements for this season include an exhibition of writing books and copy books prepared for use and instruction by seventeenth and eighteenth century writing masters.

SIR ROBERT BALFOUR LEAVES £800,000.

£232,000 PAYABLE IN ESTATE DUTIES.

GIFTS TO EMPLOYEES.

Estate valued at £800,139 gross, with net personalty £757,742, has been left by Sir Robert Balfour, Bart., of Princes Gate, South Kensington.

Sir Robert was a partner in the firm of Balfour, Williamson and Co., of Gracechurch Street, and formerly sat as Liberal M.P. for the Partick Division of Glasgow.

Legacies bequeathed to the staff of Balfour, Williamson and Co. include £1,000 each to William O'Neill and William MacIntyre; £500 each to E. A. Kinrose, F. S. Stockley, Dorothy Macdonald, Agnes M. Saunders, and Muriel Singer; and £250 to Walter Cornish. He also left £1,000 for the servants at Langham Hall, and directed that the sum standing to the "Parliamentary Salary Account" should be expended in the Partick constituency for charitable purposes.

Estate duty payable will be about £232,000.

"ROBBED BY THE WAR."

Leaving £100 to his daughter for the benefit of servants, Mr. Hugh Cawley, J.P., of Maids Moreton, Bucks, stated in his will:—

I deplore my inability in showing such small appreciation, but the war robbed me of my business and a large part of my savings.

Mr. Cawley, who was at one time prominently associated with the commerce of Manchester, left £80,252 gross, with net personalty £15,182.

GIFTS FOR CHARITIES.

A considerable sum will pass to charitable objects under the will of Mr. William Sutherland Abbot, of Branksome Park, Poole, Dorset, who left £82,501 gross, with net personalty £82,033.

Subject to provision for his wife and various specific legacies, he directed that during the life of his wife the remainder of the property should be held on trust and the income paid to the Royal Infant Orphan Asylum at Wanstead and the Saxone Trust Fund. On the death of his wife he gives £1,500 to the Salvation Army, £200 to the Hahnemann Home, Bournemouth, and £200 to the Firs Home, Bournemouth. He left certain shares in the Saxone Shoe Company to the directors of the Saxone Trust Fund for the benefit of the employees, and the ultimate residue of the property to the Royal Infant Orphan Asylum.

OTHER WILLS.

	GROSS VALUE.
EDWYN FREDERICK BARCLAY, of Queen Anne's Mansions, St. James's Park, S.W., director of Barclay, Perkins and Co. (net personalty £112,734)	£127,964
ARNOLD STEER, of Stony Stratford Vicarage, Stony Stratford, and late of the Malt House, Lurgashall, Sussex (net personalty £55,621)	£55,794
Miss ANNIE BEATRICE CHAMPION, of Bickenhall Mansions, Gloucester Place, W. (net personalty £40,512)	£40,684
Major RICHARD VILLIERS HANKEY RIALL, East Yorkshire Regiment (retired), of St. Annes, Woodfield Road, Torquay (net personalty £28,229)	£31,382

ZOO'S NEW FROGS.

GIANT DELICACIES FROM SOUTH AMERICA.

By OUR ZOO CORRESPONDENT.

The Zoo has received nineteen examples of a large and handsome amphibian from South America, known as Gay's Frog. This is the first time for several years that these giant green frogs have been exhibited in the menagerie, and the Zoo would not have acquired the new arrivals but for the fact that they are edible. They were sent to the menagerie by an Englishman who made the acquaintance of some of their relatives in a restaurant in Chile, and, finding them a delicacy, decided they ought to be cultivated in England. Consequently he arranged to have a number of live specimens captured, and thus Gay's Frog came to Regent's Park.

The menagerie has lost another of its old "characters"—Sheila, the parrot who was credited with 110 years. When this bird arrived at the Zoo she had been kept as a pet for over fifty years in one family, and had spent a long period in another establishment; as she died of old age she was in all probability the centenarian her admirers liked to believe her to be. Though no great talker, Sheila was a popular entertainer, since she never tired of dancing to the accompaniment of her keeper's whistling, and the poor old bird would turn round and round until dizziness compelled her to sink to the floor of the cage. Until a year or two ago she was known as Old Bill, but as she then caused a mild sensation by laying an egg her name was changed.

Last week-end there seemed to be some danger of a death in the Lion House, for Sultan, one of the young tigers, was seriously ill. Apparently he had caught a chill, and he spent several days lying in his sleeping den, refusing to feed or take interest in anything. He was given medicine, but he grew no better, and the only nourishment he would take was a little beef tea. His condition then caused considerable anxiety, and one of his friends, in the hope of encouraging him to feed, presented him with three pounds of best English steak. At first the sick tiger did not appear to notice that the present was beef—not horse—but after a few minutes he gave it one lick, and promptly forgot that he was on hunger strike. Sultan is now much better, but he still has a poor appetite for ordinary Zoo rations.

VETERAN MAGISTRATE'S DEATH

Mr. William E. Carrington, Stockport's oldest magistrate and chairman of S. R. Carrington and Co., Ltd., Stockport, the oldest firm of hat manufacturers in the country, died on Friday night at the age of 79.

The firm was established over 200 years ago.

BRISTOL RECORD SOCIETY.

Mr. Thomas Loveday, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Bristol, is the chairman of the council of the newly-formed Bristol Record Society.

During 1930 the society will issue as its first volume an edition of the Bristol Charters, 1155-1373. Few cities have a more important collection of archives illustrating municipal and ecclesiastical history. The prospectus of the society can be obtained from the hon. secretary, Mr. W. L. Cooper, Bristol University.

ROUTING OUT RHEUMATISM.

The Queen, it was announced yesterday, will open the new British Red Cross Society Clinic in Regent's Park for the treatment of rheumatism on February 25. This is the first of a chain of Red Cross Clinics which it is hoped to establish throughout the country. In addition to a resident medical officer, the new clinic will have a visiting staff of six physicians and surgeons, and is intended to provide treatment for the industrial worker, who can receive treatment out of working hours through the National Health Insurance scheme, and men and women suffering from rheumatic affections, who are able and willing to pay a reasonable fee for treatment.

ASYLUM BOARD'S CREST.

Mr. H. S. Mount Somerby moved a resolution at a meeting of the Metropolitan Asylums Board, yesterday, that the County Council should be asked to incorporate the Board's coat of arms, or at any rate a portion, when they take over the duties of the Board.

Mr. Somerby said the crest of the Board was probably the best known in London. During the war the badges of the Belgian and other refugees incorporated it, and so it became well known on the Continent, while the fact that the Exmouth Training Ship Old Boys had it for a badge made it known in ports all over the world. The resolution was passed by a large majority.

A COLDER WEEK-END.

LOCAL RAIN WITH BRIGHT INTERVALS.

SNOW IN THE NORTH.

ENGLAND.—Moderate easterly or south-easterly winds falling light variable; cloudy with occasional local rain but brighter intervals; local fog early and late; moderate or rather low temperature.

SCOTLAND.—Fresh easterly or south-easterly winds falling moderate; cloudy with occasional local rain or sleet but brighter intervals; moderate or rather low temperature.

IRELAND.—Light or moderate variable winds; cloudy with occasional local rain but brighter intervals; moderate or rather low temperature; local fog early and late.

ENGLISH CHANNEL.—Moderate easterly or south-easterly winds, falling light variable; cloudy with occasional local rain but brighter intervals; fog locally early and late; sea moderate.

By OUR METEOROLOGICAL EXPERT.

February's traditional nickname of "Fill-dyke" is really a misnomer, for in London and many other parts of the country the month normally ranks second to April as the driest of the twelve. This year, however, it has started in a manner worthy of its appellation. A double-centred cyclone of exceptional vigour which arrived from the Atlantic on Friday night settled down over our western districts, and yesterday maintained the very unsettled weather that has characterised the whole winter so far.

Rain was general, and continued at intervals throughout the day over a wide area. The heaviest falls were in the south-west of England, where about three-quarters of an inch was registered on the Cornish coast. Many other regions had half an inch or more, and London was fortunate in escaping with a quarter of an inch, most of which came before dawn. The sun shone for four or five hours in parts of north-west England and Wales, but elsewhere there were only fleeting intervals of bright weather at best, and in some districts skies were persistently overcast.

ABOVE NORMAL.

Temperature was rather high for the season in the south, approaching 50 deg. locally. At Kew the 1 p.m. reading of 45 deg. was 2 deg. above normal. In Scotland and Northern England the day was chilly, however, and at a few places the rain was mingled at times with sleet or snow. Near Dumfries the thermometer marked only 36 deg. in the afternoon. The night brought England respite from the blustering conditions of Friday afternoon and evening, and at many places in the central and southern counties the wind dropped so light yesterday that fog developed. Gales continued to blow in the North of Scotland, however.

The present winter is proving even more remarkable for its persistently mild and wet weather than last winter was for severe and long-lived cold. Over a large part of the country the rainfall from November to January has never been approached in three consecutive months since measurements began. During this period some regions, including outlying districts of London, have had more than twice as much as fell in the first nine months of last year.

January 19 was the warmest day London has had so early in the season for more than a century, and the mean temperature of the whole month has been surpassed by only two January since 1841 at Greenwich. January last year averaged 9 deg. colder, but was mild compared with February, which gave us the greatest frost since 1895.

LINCOLN CATHEDRAL DEBT.

AGED DEAN'S AMBITION.

Dr. T. C. Fry, the aged Dean of Lincoln, who looked frail and ill, arrived at Liverpool from Valparaiso yesterday.

The Dean left England some time ago to tour America to collect funds for the restoration of Lincoln Cathedral. He collapsed shortly after arriving at Antofagasta (Chile), and was ill for some weeks, having to abandon the tour. Yesterday, Dean Fry said he felt much better now, and that he had benefited by the voyage.

The Dean, who is 84, has now made three trips to South America on the same errand, and has collected by these means a large sum. "I should like, before I die, to see Lincoln Cathedral cleared of debt," he said. "Already £35,000 has been received from American sources. We want £20,000 more."

Dr. Fry was accompanied on his return by his two sons, Mr. B. H. Fry, British Consul at Antofagasta, and the Rev. C. E. M. Fry, Vicar of St. Luke's, Maidenhead, who went out to La Rochelle to meet him.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

The L.C.C. are to build tenements in Central districts costing £970,000.

Mr. Daniel Walter, Hythe's oldest inhabitant and first bandmaster, has died in his hundredth year.

The Hospital Saturday Fund last week made awards of £70,232 to the metropolitan hospitals and kindred institutions.

Sales of National Savings Certificates for the week ended January 18 were 1,211,962, making a grand total sold of 945,666,786.

Owing to erosion of the banks of the Mersey, local authorities are considering protective schemes to cost over £100,000.

Unless there is, in future, a daily average attendance of twenty, the L.C.C. is to withdraw bathing facilities in the lake at Kenwood.

The L.C.C. are asking the Government to appoint a committee to inquire into the provision of subways for gas, electricity, and water mains, and also for pedestrians.

Charged with strangling her two infant children and concealing their bodies in a garden, Kate Moran, unmarried, of Ballysallagh, Athlone, was remanded at Longford yesterday.

The Aircraft-Carrier Glorious, which left Plymouth yesterday for the Clyde for her speed trials, returned to port later, the trials having been deferred until the end of the month owing to the weather.

David Shand Danskin, aged 4, has died at the village of Kincaple, near St. Andrews, as the result of scalding. When cycling in the kitchen on a miniature cycle he knocked against a pail of boiling water.

Mr. Percy Barlow, Mrs. H. A. L. Fisher, Mr. J. Edward Myers, and Major F. C. Stern have been elected to represent the Home Counties on the executive committee of the National Liberal Federation.

Fireman Norris was taken to church for his wedding at Chertsey yesterday on a fire engine, accompanied by the best man. Afterwards the engine pulled the bridal couple's taxi to the reception.

A wedding which was to have taken place at St. James's Church, Milton, Portsmouth, yesterday, had to be postponed, after the bridal party had assembled in the church, owing to the absence of the clergyman.

The Lord Chancellor has nominated the Rev. J. Murray, M.A., Curate of St. Gabriel with All Saints', Pimlico, to the perpetual curacy and titular vicarage of the new parish of Hampton All Saints', Middlesex.

Mr. W. G. Bastable, for ten years Liberal agent for Nottingham, who died in a Nottingham nursing home yesterday, following an attack of pleurisy, was food controller at West Bromwich during the war.

The three people who are in the Haywood Memorial Hospital, Burslem, suffering from wounds to the throat—William Scarlett, his wife, Hannah, and William, their eight-year-old son—were yesterday stated to be comfortable.

After falling 35 feet from a chimney stack on to a cement pavement at Farnham (Surrey), Harry Painter (38), died in the infirmary from a fractured spleen, and a verdict of "Accidental death" was returned at the inquest yesterday.

SPECIAL FASHION ANNOUNCEMENT—SPRING MILLINERY

CUSTOMERS will be interested to learn that the new Spring Millinery is now to hand, and is displayed in the Salon on the First Floor

Early Spring Collection of

COATS, FROCKS SUITS & FABRICS

Purchased from a high-class West-End Designer

IN purchasing this stock Barkers have secured a brilliant collection of fashions and fabrics at a very considerable discount. Each garment is characterised by the exclusive style of a noted West End designer known in the trade for the elegance and general excellence of his productions. Rich trimmings and linings distinguish most of the styles, and the attention to fashionable detail is most marked. It is, of course, only possible to illustrate and quote a few examples—a personal visit is essential fully to appreciate the all-round worth of this collection.

Particular attention is directed to the beautiful designs and variety of the new season's Tweeds, which are available either by the yard or in the new Spring Coats and Suits.

BARKERS

2 & 3-PIECE SUITS : FROCKS : KNIT-WEAR

Model by Goupy in Spring-weight Tweeds in Opalesque shade with delightful Jumper in most becoming style. The coat has silk lining and rich collar of Beige Lamb. PRICE £8

Salon, First Floor.

Evening Gown in Maize Poult de Soie and tight-fitting bodice and long graceful ankle length skirt. PRICE £6

Salon, Second Floor.

Three-Piece Jersey Suit in good quality stockinette. Both Jumper and coat have sleeves, and skirt has deep box pleats in centre front. In Fawn, trimmed Putty. PRICE £5

Salon, First Floor.

OWING to the wide variety of style—practically every garment in the collection is different—NO POST ORDERS can be taken and no garment can be sent on approval.

Elegant COATS

Two Charming Examples

Model Afternoon Coat in super quality Black Georgette. Extremely modish and collared with Beige Squirrel. PRICE £4

Chic Model Coat in new Bordeaux. Perfectly designed, luxuriously trimmed Black Persian Lamb and richly lined throughout Crepe-de-Chine to tone. Medium fitting. PRICE £5

Wrap Salon, First Floor.

The FABRICS!

28,000 YARDS HIGH GRADE DRESS AND COAT FABRICS. At extremely large discounts. These are all the newest Spring Fabrics, including new Slub Spring Tweeds, Real Scotch, Irish, Cumberland and novelty French Tweeds, and fine light weight Camel Coatings, Face Cloths, Georgettes, Plain and Fancy, and a most wonderful collection of novelties, including Black and various shades of Navy.

Offered together with these are the following:—

3,500 METRES FAMOUS RODIER FABRICS. Products of the most eminent Parisian manufacturer—consisting of various smart novelties in Fancy Spring Coatings, Tweeds, reversibles and other novelties.

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A DAILY CROSSWORD

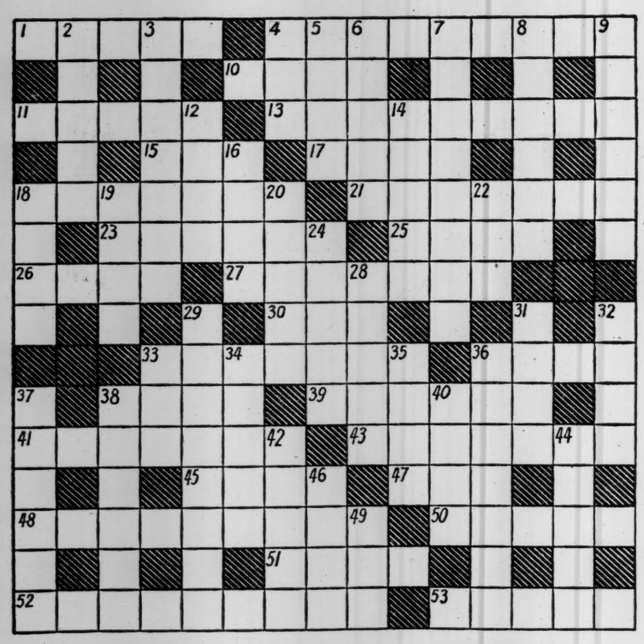
now appears in

The Times

Crosswords in The Times have proved so popular that a puzzle has now been made a regular daily feature.

These are just the sort of Crosswords that intelligent people appreciate . . . not childishly simple . . . not so abstruse that solving becomes a nightmare . . . not dependent on a reference library . . . a touch of wit in the clues that makes you chuckle as the right solution flashes to your mind.

Here is one of The Times Crosswords for you to try. The solution will be in The Times to-morrow.



ACROSS

1 Spread unevenly.
4 Part of a Milton title.
10 A month, nothing more, in Ireland.
11 He won't settle down.
13 22 down should be this.
15 Cotton onto, so to speak.
17 Head of a chapter.
18 Denizen of the ultimate ditch.
21 Frequently under observation.
23 What's in this stands out.
25 Flighty word.
26 If the end of this gets in the way the whole may result.
27 Retunes (anag.).
30 This means study.
33 Simply enormous.
36 There's a lot in this voice
38 This elephant has lost his head.
39 A turn for the worse.
41 Done with a coarse file.
43 Red loam (anag.).
45 This rodent's going back.
47 Makes a plaything with its past.
48 Wants confidence.
50 A mixed welcome means getting the bird.
51 This girl seems to be eating backwards.
52 The men in the moon.
53 A pinch of sand will make it dry.

DOWN

2 Heraldic gold between mother and me.
3 Out of countenance.
4 Upset this value and get a sharp reproof.
5 Intently watched
6 In some hands the things become trumpets.
7 A religious service.
8 This horseman has dropped an h.
9 Sounds like a curious song.
12 This ought to be square.
14 Momentary stoppage.
16 Written briefly.
18 Calverley's picturesque scholars carved their names on every one.
19 Site of 45 across.
20 Precedes advantage.
22 Parents in a negative way.
24 Used to be somewhere in France.
28 Happen afterwards.
29 Climbing instinct in man.
31 A terrestrial glider.
32 The final crack.
33 The little devil's on our money.
34 Simplest creature.
35 Time measurements.
36 Jollier than 4 across.
37 Ladies in promising mood.
38 Presents are commonly this.
40 Gets the boot.
42 Hail in Scotland may mean tears.
44 Works, but usually plays.
46 She's dead.
49 Only a contortionist could do this on a chair.

The solution of this puzzle will appear in The Times to-morrow. A Crossword is now published daily and its solution in the following issue.

The Times

Tell your newsagent to deliver it regularly

Court and Society

The Court is to remain at Sandringham some time longer—possibly for another ten days or a fortnight—and then will come to Buckingham Palace. The King and Queen will then probably stay in London for some time, and no arrangements have been made for His Majesty to go anywhere on the South Coast, as has been rumoured. Naturally, sunshine and a mild climate are recommended, but as the King's taste does not lie in a partiality for other countries, the only other alternative would be somewhere in the British Isles. However, if the weather for the next few months shows any likelihood of being good, it is expected that Windsor will be the Royal headquarters until the summer.

Before leaving for the Riviera on Thursday Lady Ludlow gave a dinner party at Bath House, her Bolton Street residence, to about twenty, her guests including the Countess of Mar and Kellie, Sir Hugo and Lady Cunliffe-Owen, the Hon. George and Mrs. Keppel, the Hon. Evan Charteris, the Countess of Scarbrough, Lady Rodd, Lord Lurgan, Lady Savile, the Hon. Sir Arthur Stanley, Sir Seymour Fortescue, Viscount and Viscountess Churchill, and one or two others.

Entertaining for the Naval Conference proceeds apace, and though the afternoon reception given at the Mansion House on Tuesday last was not primarily concerned with that delegation, yet the Lady Mayoress had invited many of the members and their wives to join the gathering. This was the first of the at-homes which Lady Mayoresses invariably give during their husbands' tenure of office, and was a very crowded affair. With the Lord Mayor by her side, the Lady Mayoress (Lady Waterlow) stood for more than an hour receiving what appeared to be a never-ending stream. She looked very well in black satin, lightened by frills of beige georgette at neck and wrist, and wore a piquet of lilies of the valley. Her numerous maids of honour, with the assistance of Mr. James and Mr. Tom Waterlow (sons of the host and hostess, whose height and white carnation buttonholes made them conspicuous in the crowd) helped to look after the creature comforts of the guests.

Buffets on three sides were decorated with bright red carnations and white lilac. A string band played in the reception-room, and in the adjoining green drawing-room an interesting programme of songs was given by Miss Cecilia Farrar and Mr. Robert Naylor. Mrs. Stanley Baldwin, in a moleskin coat and a hat trimmed with beige and rose feathers, was an early arrival, and later she was conversing with Sir Ronald and Lady Waterhouse, the former secretaries respectively of the ex-Premier and of herself. Not far away I met Lord and Lady Jessel, the latter wearing a becoming black velvet hat, with their daughter, the Hon. Doreen Jessel, in red.

Lady Ebbisham, in a coat of summer ermine, was talking to Lady Madden, who wore a swathed toque of gold tissue. Elizabeth Lady Cheylesmore in brown, Viscountess Sandhurst in a grey feathered hat, Susan Duchess of Somerset, Lord Marshall, and Lord and Lady Wakefield were to be seen; while among the members of the Diplomatic Corps were the French Ambassador, with Mme. de Fleuriau, whose black toque was enhanced by a large turquoise brooch which matched the row of large turquoise beads round her throat—and which she told me she had brought back from China; the Portuguese Ambassador, and the Belgian Ambassador, who was accompanied by Baroness de Cartier, the latter wearing a sable coat and a chic toque of turquoise blue and black.

The first concert—one of three—to be given at Burlington House during the Exhibition of Italian Art was largely attended, and included madrigals, hunting, carnival, and other songs, all sung in Italian. These compositions had been selected from the works of fourteenth, fifteenth, and sixteenth century writers, and included Palestrina's "Laudate Dominum." It was strange to find rows of chairs in the main gallery, facing Botticelli's "Venus," at the foot of which Mr. Anthony Bernard's orchestra was grouped. In this usual milieu were to be found such well-known music-lovers as Lady Chamberlain, in a white fur-trimmed coat, with her daughter; Mr. and Mrs. Emil Mond, and their daughter; Lady (Denison) Ross; Lady Holford, in apple green; the Portuguese Ambassador; and the Brazilian Ambassador, with Madame Régis de Oliveira in a smart black velvet wrap.

There is very little being done in the way of private entertaining these days, and people seem to prefer to take friends to dine out, with a visit to a theatre or cinema afterwards. Earl and Countess Fitzwilliam, for instance, had a family party at the Embassy the other night, which included their daughters, the Countess of Wharncliffe, who looked very nice in white satin, and Lady Joan Philipps, who was dressed in pale daffodil yellow velvet. Lady Fitzwilliam was smartly garbed in black, and appeared quite recovered from her illness, and she and her party all went on to a cinema after dinner. She and her son, Viscount Milton, sailed for the West Indies on Thursday.

There were several interesting groups at the Ambassadors Theatre the night I went to see "The Man in Possession." In the front row of stalls I noticed Viscount and Viscountess Hambleden, the latter in a coat of gold and green lamé. Not far away was the Hon. Mrs. Roland Cubitt, wrapped in a squirrel coat, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Glasgow were together further back, and in one of the tiny boxes I caught a glimpse of Lord Forres, evidently back in town on one of his flying visits from his delightful villa at Mentone.

Mrs. Philip Snowden is entertaining in a quiet way at 11, Downing Street, and on Thursday had a small party to luncheon, when the guests were Lady Parmoor, the Hon. Mrs. Charles Rothschild, Miss Susan Lawrence, M.P., Mrs. F. W. Hirst, Lady Cynthia Colville, and those interesting Japanese ladies Madame Matsudaira and Madame Takarabe. To-day Mrs. Snowden is having a small reception at the Chancellor of the Exchequer's official residence, when important personalities from Australia, Canada, India, the Irish Free State, New Zealand, Japan, Italy, France, and the United States of America are likely to be found in the long drawing-room, as well as a few of Mrs. Snowden's own personal friends. After tea Miss Marion Keighley Snowden—a second cousin of the Chancellor—will play some Bach chorales.

Mention of 11, Downing Street reminds me that at the house next door—that is to say, that of the Prime Minister—there will be an unusually attractive gathering on the 25th, when there is to be an evening music party at 9 p.m. The programme, drawn up in co-operation with Dr. Malcolm Sargent, will include Mr. Albert Sammons, who will play the celebrated Kreutzer Sonata; Miss Dorothy Silk, who will sing airs by Handel and Delius; Miss Edith Walton, playing Chopin, Liszt, and Ravel, and the St. George's Singers with Elizabethan madrigals. Miss Ishbel MacDonald, who is a member of the National Council of Queen Charlotte's Hospital Campaign, will act as hostess, and the Prime Minister hopes to be present as well. There is to be a buffet supper after the concert, and among those interested in the affair are Lady Maud Warrender, Lady (Edgar) Bonham-Carter, Lady Winifred Remshaw, Lady Fitzgerald, Countess De la Warr, Lady Violet Bonham-Carter, the Countess of Iveagh, Lady Cynthia Mosley, Mrs. Stanley Baldwin, the Duchess of Atholl, and endless more. This will be the first time 10, Downing Street has been lent for such a purpose since Mr. MacDonald became Premier.

MAYFAIR.

British Tweeds

BRITISH tweeds are no longer heavy and exclusively rural-looking, for, during the last few months, the manufacturers have produced many designs in delightful weaves and textures, and of so light a weight that they can be worn on many occasions.

The sketch to the left reproduces two kinds of tweed in one ensemble. The tucked-in blouse, the scarf and the hat are in one design, while a speckled tweed of a heavier weight makes the coat and skirt.

The other sketch is of a beige tweed speckled in yellow and brown. It shows the newest length of coat with rounded fronts—a detail repeated in the hem of the skirt. Patch pockets are applied to the coat so that they seem to come from the shoulder.

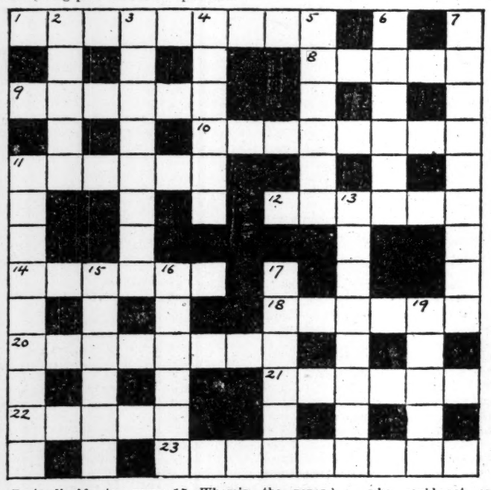
DAFFODIL DAY.

The Servers of the Blind League are holding their annual Daffodil Day in London on March 15 in aid of the extension of the work. A new home is to be opened this summer, while the work of the social clubs is also being extended in London and the provinces.

Helpers and sellers are urgently required for Daffodil Day in the West End. Those who can help are asked to communicate with the Appeals Organiser, at 3, Upper Woburn Place, W.C.1.

CROSS-WORD PUZZLE No. 266.

Send solutions addressed "Cross-word No. 266," SUNDAY TIMES, 186, Strand, London, W.C.2. Two novels selected from publishers' announcements in the SUNDAY TIMES will be given to the senders of the first five correct solutions opened after the first post on Thursday. Readers in Scotland are precluded from taking part in the competition.



ACROSS.

1. For Xmas enjoyment get a utensil to imitate.
8. Behold the custom, but parasitic we fear.
9. A saucy reason for the dog to guard the tree
10. What most benedicts have done at least once, possibly because there was something compelling about the positioa.
11. A good antidote for spirits of salts.
12. This occasion is a joyous one.
14. Constructed to carry a dead weight.
18. Worry.
20. From this you get proof positive.
21. Often forced to work at high pressure in a ship.
22. Result.
23. Often received cavalier treatment in Caroline times.

DOWN.

2. Help.
3. Try a hill for one of those who will.
4. Terrace for the wild in restraint at the Zoo.
5. Pass.
6. An enlarging piece is placed under Augustus.
7. Applicable to some hanging matter, without doubt.
11. Reliable.
13. This marine dweller has its points.
15. Wherein the venerable should take their vacation.
16. A simple chance to make 20 ac from.
17. An ancient Greek who could not escape from the interdict.
19. The ancient home of a learned person who was evidently a lady graduate.

CROSS-WORD No. 265 PRIZEWINNERS.

R. A. O'NEILL, 358, Ravern Hill Road, Belfast; Mrs. CAYLEY, 1, Wetherby Gardens, S.W.5; F. A. HYLTON, 54, Stradbroke Road, Gorleston-on-Sea, Norfolk; FRANK G. WATTS, Ivybank, The Avenue, St. Margarets-on-Thames, Middlesex; Lieut.-Col. H. H. JOLL, Hucceaby House, Princetown, Devon.

SOLUTIONS.—ACROSS: 1, Deleted; 5, Pupil; 8, Glazier; 9, Orion; 10, Mat; 11, Trestle; 13, Evade; 14 Tinder; 17, Intern; 20, Magic; 21, Rasping; 25, Emu; 26, Elite; 27, Gristle; 28, Tress; 29, Lateran.

DOWN: 1 Digit; 2, Lease; 3, Twist; 4, Dormer; 5, Protean; 6, Private; 7, Lantern; 12, Sud; 14, Tempest; 15, Neglige; 16 Exceeds; 18, Top; 19, Frugal; 22, Skirt; 23, Inter; 24, Green.

A Woman's Corner

Candlemas Day.

Concerning Diaries.

By PANDORA.

To-day is Candlemas Day, and, apart from its religious and historical significance, its association with the winter's weather makes it of interest to those who believe in old sayings.

Candlemas, called so from the blessing of the candles by the clergy—and at one time their size was of vast importance—sets the pace for the rest of the winter. As this year so far has been mild, we shall regard to-day's weather with some anxiety.

If Candlemas Day be dry and fair,
The half o' winter's to come and mair,
If Candlemas Day be wet and foul,
The half o' winter's gone at Yule,

which may be good sense, but is bad rhyme and worse poetry.

To-day, then, instead of looking hopefully for the sun, when we rise to greet the day with shining morning face or otherwise, we should be looking hopefully for a really nice soaking wet day which shall ensure that the worst of the winter is over. Of course, for unselfish and patriotic reasons, we should be glad of every fine day to prove to the countless visitors now here from other countries that London is not always wrapped in fog and drowned in rain. But if a fine to-day means that the worst of the winter is still to be looked for, I, for one, shall cheer madly the sight of rain.

Keeping Diaries.

Mr. James Milne has been asking in the *Daily Telegraph* who in our day are keeping diaries which in years to come will be lights upon us and our ways. But for the most part the diary habit must have died when life became so strenuous and we learned to be ashamed of loafing pleasantly, or even of admitting that we wanted a little time in which to think. In fact, thinking, as G. B. S. has pointed out, is most unusual for the majority.

However, to get back to the diaries, they seem to require leisure and space, which are both more precious than rubies in these days of many engagements and small establishments. The modern diary is as a rule a few notes about where one dined and what one did in the day, with a brief note of some interesting person who passed like a ship in the night, or some outstanding fact or event.

Many Standpoints.

I doubt if any modern statesman has a daughter who is taking such copious notes as did Miss Mary Gladstone, or placing on record a similar passionate admiration for the speeches of her parent—or parents—as compared with the nonsense talked by the leader of the opposing forces. Yet a young woman's diary of the years since the war would be of great value and interest in the future as showing a certain point of view.

The students of our times, many years hence, would hardly find any true picture of this period unless they read a number of diaries written from widely differing standpoints. They should include the diaries of important men in the three political parties, the diaries of the older women who grew up before the war, and those of girls who knew not the war and are at present the modern of moderns, the diaries of the idealists, the diaries of the selfish and practical, with their records of material progress and disregard for all else; and what picture would be complete without the diaries of ex-Servicemen, poor, disillusioned, broken in health, and more or less cold-shouldered by those whose cry is for international friendship and the suppression of all that may hurt ex-enemy sensitive feelings.

But, apart from all else, I feel sure that want of space has a good deal to do with the failure to keep diaries. Where every atom of room is wanted in a small house, and so many people live in flats, which do not encourage hoarding, even diaries might be regarded as superfluous rubbish, and the works which would be priceless to future historians of twentieth century life, manners, and views may be thrown into the waste-paper basket at the next spring cleaning to make room for a new supply of notepaper.

London Sights.

The oddities of London life, and the calmness with which unusual sights are regarded, add to the interest of one's daily round. My bag last week included a tall young girl, well dressed and well behaved, who was walking down a famous shopping street barelegged. This might have provoked only mild surprise but for the fact that her heels were tinted a warm, not to say vivid, red, which ran up to form a point. Even blasé Londoners gave this sight a second glance.

Pavement artists appear to have a sense of humour, and a good deal of amusement is to be gained by a glance at their pitches. I paid a penny with a good grace upon observing in one case a large white cardboard box, about the size of a shirt box, placed ready for offerings. Another pavement artist I noticed had drawn with coloured chalks a series of pictures, ending with a realistic group of two fish next to his cloth cap, which was labelled significantly, "The day's catch."

Prosperous Pavement Artists.

A pavement artist of my acquaintance announced pharisaically that he was not as other men who hired their pictures and limited their own share in setting them in place and holding out a cap for pennies. As the same artist once appeared after a few days' absence with a glorious coat of sunburn and mentioned that he had been away at the sea for his holiday, there would seem to be money in the business. After all, with no rent to pay and coloured crayons fairly cheap, plus a taste for the open air and the determination to risk rheumatism, there is something to be said for being a pavement artist.

The crossing sweeper is dying out, but sometimes one comes across an old man or woman who has clung for many years to a particular post. In Kensington Square there is a woman crossing sweeper who is known to all the people of the neighbourhood, but one can go very long distances without seeing such a relic of old days.

Spring—and Skirts.

With skylarks heard at Maidenhead, and the twittering of various birds sounding cheerfully from some woods near London, snowdrops coming up, and the sales over, it would seem as if the season had most distinctly turned. But with the promise of spring, the battle over the long and short skirts is becoming heated. Are we to wear long, elaborate dresses or are we to be comfortable? That is the question.

Whateve is settled by the powers that be, the average woman will abide by it, for it takes a good deal of courage to be odd. Not only courage, but strong personality, or a high position wherein one can do as one chooses. A certain great lady, whose memoirs have lately appeared, is a marked example of individuality, for she wears a style of gown and headgear entirely her own, and stands out from the crowd. For most of us to adopt a special dress would merely result in our feeling uncomfortable and conspicuous, but one looks admiringly at the lady in question and at another who bears a marked resemblance to the portrait of Mrs. Siddons, with a large black hat crowning white hair. Alas! the average woman is the average woman, and dresses accordingly, though I do not believe that she will agree to long skirts for out-of-doors, whatever she may wear in the house.

Lucky Londoners.

Whether we know it or not, we are lucky people to live in London, where every luxury and delicacy can be had in season or out of season. A Canadian friend exclaiming last week over new beans in January is responsible for this outburst. I went on to consider the wonderful display in the greengrocers' shops and in the big stores, and thought of the old days when housekeepers expected to buy what was in season, and did not complain because they could not get new asparagus in January, the most beautiful fruit from the Cape, and the fresh spring flowers from the South. Yes, we are spoiled and take for granted our luxuries. There is no doubt about that.

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IN TRYING WEATHER TRY BOVRIL

FIFTY YEARS OF PUBLISHING.

THE KING'S MESSAGE TO BENN BROTHERS.

SUCCESS IN EFFORTS FOR BRITISH TRADE.

Fifty years ago the late John Williams Benn (afterwards Sir John Benn, M.P.) issued the first of the well-known series of trade journals now published by Benn Brothers, Ltd., and last night the firm celebrated its jubilee by a dinner to its staff at the Wharncliffe Rooms, which was attended by many distinguished guests.

Sir Ernest Benn, the chairman of the firm, recalled that in 1861 his father, as an undersized boy of eleven, used to tramp in his mother's Sunday boots from Stepney to Mincing Lane to earn 5s. a week as an office messenger. The firm which he founded now pays £71,000 a year in wages, and Sir Ernest Benn spoke of this achievement as a triumph of the spirit of individualism.

The journal which John Williams Benn founded fifty years ago was the *Cabinet Maker*—and a former editor of this journal, who was present at last night's dinner, was one of the sons of the founder, Mr. Wedgwood Benn, M.P., Secretary of State for India.

In reply to a message of loyalty sent to the King, the following reply was received from Sandringham:—"The King is interested to hear that to-day you are commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the foundation of your firm, and that on this auspicious occasion representatives of so many important trades are joining in the celebration. I am commanded to convey to all present the sincere thanks of His Majesty for your message of loyal greetings, and to express the hope that every success may attend the efforts of your publishing houses for the development of British trade.—Clive Wigram."

PRESS AND PUBLIC.

Dean Inge, replying to the toast of "Fleet Street," proposed by Sir William Plender, made some comments on the general character of Fleet Street as representing journalism in general. High-class British journalism was, on the whole, he said, a thing of which the country could be proud. But in the average daily paper it was rather deplorable to see so much prominence given to unsavoury crime, sport, and betting. Were these really the things that the British people cared most about? In this and in other social matters, however, we were apt to forget that if there was any blame it attached rather to the consumer than to the producer. It was they who paid the piper and called the tune. It was popular taste which must of necessity determine the character of our newspapers. The popular taste, therefore, must be purified and elevated.

Mr. Walter Runciman, M.P., speaking as an old friend and political associate of the late Sir John Benn, gave the toast of "The Firm," and speaking of the present position of trade and commerce, said the mentality of investors, both in stocks and shares and in securities, had been rudely disturbed both by economic and psychological causes What had happened in London in recent months, however, was not characteristic of British industry, commerce, or finance. "We can thank God," said Mr. Runciman, "that the real basis on which British commerce has been built up has been honesty. We all take for granted that those to whom we buy and to whom we sell are honest men Unless we start off with that axiom commercial life would be impossible.

LONDON'S BASIS, HONESTY.

"It is because that has been so deeply engrained in our habits and principles that some of the most distinguished financial houses were so easily taken in during the past twelve months. That is not entirely to their discredit. They know how to meet misfortune, but one thing they cannot insure is the honesty of their customers."

One of the reasons, Mr. Runciman went on, why London still remained the financial centre of the world, in spite of the war and of the ambitions of other capitals, was because our banks, our financiers, and our merchants were honest men who only issued honest paper. So long as we maintained that character we need not fear as to the future. The world was not yet worn out or fully exploited. The days might be dark and the local troubles inconvenient, but it was quite certain that so long as the great commercial houses would follow the example of Benn Brothers and call in their younger generations while still young, the prosperity of the Empire would return and be maintained.

Sir Ernest Benn, in reply, said that the first gathering of the staff which he remembered was in 1887, in his father's sitting room in Finsbury Square, when they numbered some fourteen or fifteen persons in all. The history of the development of the firm to its present position, when its jubilee was honoured by such a distinguished gathering, was a story not only full of interest but with a definite bearing on most of the problems that faced the country to-day.

AN IDEA—AND COURAGE.

"This business," said Sir Ernest, "was founded upon an idea backed by personal courage, an idea which was scoffed at by all the experts of the day, and discouraged, so far as I can discover, by all my father's friends. It is essentially the work of the individualist. It had no doles to support it, no facilities, guarantees, subsidies, or any of those modern devices now thought essential to success in industry. Sir John conceived the notion that mahogany and eighteenth-century design might be made popular at the end of the Victorian period, and he pushed that notion against odds and in face of imminent bankruptcy to the success with which we are familiar."

Referring to the development in recent years of the sister firm of Ernest Benn, Ltd., book publishers, Sir Ernest quoted the doyen of European publishers, Mr. Albert Bonnier, of Stockholm, for the saying that some genius is required to write books, more genius is required to make them, and the greatest genius of all is required in the selling of them.

Sir Ernest mentioned that Benn Bros., in their individualistic way, established fourteen years ago a five-day week, which they had maintained with great success ever since. They also had profit-sharing and saving schemes, and nearly half the staff were shareholders. In the whole of its history the firm had never "sacked" anybody for lack of trade. That did not seem to them to be an adequate excuse for shirking their responsibilities as employers.

Among those present were Lady Benn, Mr. Wedgwood Benn, the Lithuanian Minister, the Finnish Minister, the Latvian Minister, the Estonian Chargé d'Affaires, Viscount Hambleden, Mr. Arnold Bennett, Lady Charnwood, Professor Conway, Sir Cecil Walsh, Sir Arthur Shirley Benn, Sir Hugh Bell, and Sir Frank Newnes.

CHISWICK HOUSE.

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC ONLY ON SUNDAYS.

Though the grounds have been open to the public for several months, a correspondent points out that Chiswick House can be viewed only on Sundays.

"The grounds," said an official of the Brentford and Chiswick Urban District Council, "have been open since July. There are facilities for games such as cricket, while tennis courts are being constructed.

"It is quite true that Chiswick House is open only on Sundays, but this is because there has been no demand from the public to inspect the House on week-days. For the moment the Council has not yet decided to what use the House may be put."

ON THE STEPS OF SALISBURY CATHEDRAL.

The bridal party outside Salisbury Cathedral yesterday on the occasion of the marriage of Lady Margaret Douglas-Hamilton and Mr. James Richardson Drummond-Hay.

IRON SOVIET RULE.

MILITARY GRIP ON THE VILLAGES.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

MOSCOW, Saturday.

The ever-increasing speed at which the State machine is now driving towards full Communism is shown by several decrees published to-day.

One hundred thousand soldiers must be ready and trained this year as "militant organisers of the Socialist village," by a Red Staff order, signed by Voroshilof. Of these, 75,000 are intended to run the new collective farms, thus supplementing the vast number of civilian Communist workmen recently sent to the villages [25,000 from Moscow alone] to take up the same duties. Fifty thousand others—mainly young enthusiasts belonging to the new "Hammerers' Brigades"—were also sent to "stimulate" spring sowing by the peasantry.

EXPELLING GOOD PEASANTS.

To-day, also, is published the full text of a decree ordering the "immediate dissolution" not only of all village Soviets lagging behind the Bolshevik collectivisation schemes, but also all regional executives similarly offending. In their place new Soviets are to be elected, after a preparatory meeting of the "village poor" only. (This seems to mean that the so-called "middle" peasants will be excluded, as well as, of course, all kulaks or comparatively well-to-do peasants, who are now being expelled from all regions of "full collectivisation" without the right of transport for their stock elsewhere.)

The Soviet Press is at some pains to explain that "this new liquidation of the Kulaks as a class" has nothing to do with the old "committees of the poor," which, in the main years of militant Communism, 1918-20, were used as an instrument for driving out the kulak and sharing up his land and stock. The truthful contention is that whereas in those bitter years it was simply a case of sharing up class spoils, to-day the kulak's property is transferred to the "new collectives."

CLOSING OF CHURCHES.

Next comes the decree of the Odessa Soviet ordering the immediate closing of all "counter-revolutionary hearths"—that is, all the churches, chapels, meeting houses, and numerous synagogues of strong Jewish element in that old and popular sea port. Their bells, and all other metal, and the objects used in the churches and chapels, are to be handed over as "scrap" to the State industries.

"What Manchester thinks to-day London will think to-morrow" may have its counterpart in Russia. In any case, Odessa preceded Moscow in organised bread rationing. So far, the Moscow Soviet, although already it has closed a certain number of the city's perhaps excessive number of churches [the pre-war figure was 450, excluding convents], has not closed churches "as such," except the monasteries, of course.

All that it has so far done has been to pull down a large number for reasons of "town planning," and to nationalise a great number of others on the ground that the worshippers are not numerous enough to keep up the building or justify its use for religious purposes.

STOVE WHERE ALTAR STOOD.

The latest instance of such is Moscow's "Old Believers" Church [Old Believers are the original Dissenters or Puritans, the sort of people who sailed in the Mayflower], which on January 25 was re-opened as a public dining room, with a cooking stove where the altar stood.

Moscow Soviet's main step forward this week is to forbid all ringing of church bells. On the other hand, the Council of the People's Commissars to-day wisely puts on the brake to the rather sinister movement to visit the sins of the fathers, even of the grandfathers, on the young children, by excluding them from primary and secondary schools.

Expulsion from school for reasons of class origin—the Soviet Press informs us—had acquired 'mass character," not only the children of the ex bourgeoisie being thus victimised, but even the children of handicraft workers and of the middling peasants. Children of all such origins now often belong to the poorest of the poor. Therefore the deprivation of the right to learn to read and write, and still more the fact that they have nowhere to go during what ought to be their school hours, easily results in their joining bands of "Besprisorni"—those homeless waifs who form a distinct juvenile criminal class here.

STRAITS SETTLEMENT GOVERNOR.

HONGKONG, Saturday.

Sir Cecil Clementi, the retiring Governor of Hongkong, and Lady Clementi left for Singapore to-day ni the P. and O. steamer Mantua.—*Reuter.*

(Sir Cecil Clementi has been appointed Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Straits Settlements and High Commissioner for the Malay States.)

LADY M. DOUGLAS-HAMILTON'S WEDDING.

CHEERING WOMEN IN ANIMATED SCENES

Continued from page 15.

with close-fitting bodices and full, billowing skirts, which reached to the ground at the back, were worn by the bridesmaids. With these they had short coats of panné velvet to match the shade of their frocks. Wreaths of velvet leaves were entwined in their hair. They walked in pairs, carrying bouquets of mixed flowers, and the gowns of each pair matched in shades of peach, pale green, blue, mauve, jade, rose pink, and cherry, the ensemble giving a wonderful rainbow effect.

The rainbow bouquets of orchids and lilies of the valley of the bridesmaids corresponded with the rainbow hues of the floral decorations.

The Duchess of Hamilton and Brandon wore a gown of sapphire blue frappé velvet woven on a back of gold lamé. It was relieved by dainty collars and cuffs of soft Indian lawn, embroidered in dull gold threads. Her coat of the same material as the gown, was trimmed with artificial golden fur, chosen by the Duchess because, for humanitarian reasons, she never wears real fur.

The bridegroom's mother was unable to be present owing to indifferent health.

As soon as the bride arrived all heads were turned in the direction of the west door where Lady Margaret paused for a moment while her train was arranged. Her bridesmaids fell in behind her, and the little pages were handed the train. One of them, Master Stewart Richardson, was attacked with stage fright. He stamped his feet and resolutely refused to go with his companions and was led away by his nurse.

The notes of St. Francis of Assisi's "Canticle to the Sun" rose and sank on the organ and were joined by the voices of the choir. The procession moved towards the altar, followed by the eyes of the congregation. No fairer setting could have been found than Salisbury Cathedral with its spacious grassy close and chain of trees.

"I HAE A WIFE OF MY AIN."

Banks of flowers and tall palms ranged against the four clustered marble columns of the chancel formed a glowing mass of colour. There were flaming hyacinths and white narcissi and fragrant lilies. No floral decorations were placed in the body of the Cathedral, which was left untouched in its austere beauty.

During the signing of the register the choir sang Purcell's anthem, "Rejoice in the Lord," and at the conclusion of the service, Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" was played. Outside Girl Guides, including the Donhead Branch which formed Lady Margaret's own company, were lined up as a guard of honour.

As the young couple left the Cathedral they were preceded by Pipe-Major Mathieson, who, resplendent in Highland dress, played "I Hae a Wife of My Ain," as he escorted them across the cathedral green to their mator-car.

There were astonishing scenes as the bride and bridegroom pressed forward to their car. The great crowd swept over the lawn of the close and women in their determination to see the bride climbed on to the moss-covered walls and stood swaying there. The young couple were smothered in confetti which the cheering women flung at them.

Waiting in the car were Lady Margaret's two favourite Alsatians. Each had a bow of tartan ribbon on its collar in honour of the occasion. As the be-ribboned car drove off the women ran cheering beside it all through the streets of Salisbury, and handkerchiefs fluttered as it made its way to Ferne House, Shaftesbury, where the reception was held.

No sooner had the wedding bells died away then rain began to fall.

THE WEATHER CLEARS.

Before the ceremony the sun emerged from behind its screen of lowering clouds to give a joyous air to the occasion. Throughout the morning rain had fallen, causing dismay among the townsfolk of Salisbury and those who had journeyed in by car and charabanc from miles around.

Women who had been shopping in the marketplace gathered outside the cathedral and discussed the chances of the rain clearing before Lady Margaret, who is known and beloved of them all, should arrive at the cathedral. Their hopes for a brightening in the weather were realised, for as Lady Margaret reached the altar steps the sun broke out and its slanting rays shone through the high windows upon the scene within.

Thousands of people, men, women, and children, gathered in the Cathedral Close to catch a glimpse of the bride as she arrived. Some of them had stood for more than two hours in the rain. They watched the stream of guests arrive. From all parts of England and Scotland these guests came, some by car and some by train. Parking places for 200 vehicles were set aside by the authorities.

Among the early arrivals was the bride's father, the Duke of Hamilton and Brandon, who was wheeled into the cathedral in an invalid chair.

Those of the watching throng who stood near the main entrance could see the bridesmaids arranging the tartan bows of their bouquets as they waited. Every now and then could be caught a glimpse of the three little page-boys in white silk shirts and Balmoral kilts, as they chatted with their nurses.

Twenty ushers were in readiness to show the guests to their seats. As they entered they glanced instinctively towards the chancel, but there was no sign of the bridegroom who, with his best man, had been delayed, and did not arrive until a few minutes before the service was due to begin.

"GATE-CRASHER" PRECAUTIONS.

Every precaution was taken against "gate-crashers." Those who had not received special invitations were provided with tickets to admit them to the Cathedral. The police kept constant watch at the doors to prevent anyone who had neither ticket nor invitation card from entering.

Nearly 500 guests arrived in the special train from Waterloo, and as there were not sufficient vehicles to take them from the station to the cathedral, many were forced to walk a mile and a-half in the rain.

It had been arranged, if fine, that Lady Margaret would walk from her car, which was to be stopped in the roadway, along the pathway leading across the close to the west door. The weather prevented this, however, and she was driven right up to the cathedral door, and the waiting crowds only caught a fleeting glance of her as she passed.

As she stepped from her car the crowd surged forward, struggling with the police cordon, but they were kept from rushing the doors. The next minute the doors were closed and barred.

Hundreds of beautiful presents were received One of the most novel was a set of bagpipes, which the Lady Margaret presented to her bridegroom. She received from him an emerald ring and a blue diamond brooch. The bridegroom's gifts to the bridesmaids were necklaces.

The bride received an old Brussels lace veil, an opal brooch, a cheque and household linen from her mother and father, a diamond pendant and ear-rings from Mrs. Drummond Hay, a cut-glass scent bottle from Priscilla Countess Annesley, a leather box from the Hon. Mrs. Bowes-Lyon, a thermos hot-water jug and set of tumblers from Viscount and Viscountess Cowdray, an amethyst brooch from the Duchess of Norfolk, a set of jugs and glasses from the Countess of Shaftesbury, a leather blotter from the first Donhead Girl Guides, and a slipper box from the Hamilton Girl Guides, a silver rose bowl from the staff of Ferne House, a canteen of table silver and a gold brooch from the Hamilton Estate staff, and a set of silver toast racks from the staff of Dungavel.

The Duchess of Hamilton's eve-of-the-wedding ball to the bridesmaids of Lady Margaret Douglas-Hamilton took place on Friday night at Ferne House, some 150 guests being present.

LADY DORIA HOPE.

DUKE OF NEWCASTLE'S DAUGHTER ENGAGED.

The engagement was announced yesterday of Lady Doria Hope, elder daughter of the Duke of Newcastle, to Mr. Freddie Childe, who belongs to a well-known Shropshire family.

Lady Doria, a beautiful dark-eyed girl of 21, is well known in London Society circles. She is of an extremely vivacious and independent nature, and two years ago she paid a visit to America, determined to map out a business life of her own seeking.

She entered a Fifth Avenue ladies' goods establishment in New York, and worked like the ordinary business girl behind the counter at £5 a week. She afterwards confided to a friend that she thoroughly enjoyed the experience, especially the independence the life afforded, and the companionship of the other girls, who, of course, were unaware of her identity.

Recognised by an English friend, her identity was divulged, and her position became so embarrassing that she left the store. She continued, however, the business life, becoming associated with a decorating firm.

Mr. Childe originally intended to make the Army his profession, but on leaving Cambridge took up farming on modern lines.

The date of the wedding, the Duke of Newcastle stated yesterday, has not been fixed.

NEW MARKET FOR AIRCRAFT.

POSSIBILITIES IN SOUTH AFRICA.

By OUR AIR CORRESPONDENT.

I learn that the possibilities of South Africa as a big potential market for British aircraft are being carefully examined by several of the leading aeroplane firms in England. It is probable that one of our biggest companies will shortly open up an aeroplane factory in South Africa to produce craft in competition with the German, Dutch, and American manufacturers who are endeavouring to obtain a hold on the African market.

Flying activities in South Africa are increasing at a remarkable rate. Already there are five light aeroplane clubs in existence at Johannesburg, Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, Durban, and East London, and the African aircraft market shows every possibility of becoming extremely profitable in the very near future.

The possibilities of air services, especially for special charter work, are wide, and there are plenty of natural aerodrome locations. Farmers are already realising that they can save time, money, and trouble by using the air instead of motor-car, horse, or rail. Several of the farmers are already equipped with their own private machines, and at certain times of the year, when the roads are flooded, they find that the air is the only means they have of leaving their own localities.

Good scope for flying is to be found in Kenya. Details of the activities of the Wilson Air Line Company were given in the SUNDAY TIMES not long ago, when Captain Campbell Black flew a cabin machine from Croydon to Nairobi for use on the Wilson air routes. Captain Black is now on his way to Nairobi for the second time, flying another Avro V. five-seater cabin monoplane.

According to a Reuter's message, Captain Black's aeroplane which left Croydon on Tuesday, arrived yesterday at Naples.

FLIGHT TO AUSTRALIA.

CONGRATULATIONS TO MR. CHICHESTER.

Lord Thomson, Secretary of State for Air, has sent the following telegram to Mr. F. C. M. Chichester, the New Zealand pilot, who recently completed a lone flight to Australia from Croydon:—

"Air Council tender warm congratulations on the successful completion of your fine flight to Australia."

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S.O.S. FROM HAREM

MIDNIGHT DASH TO SAVE WOMEN.

FORT WALLS SCALED BY RESCUERS.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

BOMBAY, Saturday.

A scenario-like rescue from a Muslim Pir's harem at dead of night at Hyderabad (Sind), the other night is reported here.

A sensation was caused in Sukkur when the district police superintendent, with officers and veiled women in a motor-car, dashed into the town at great speed early in the morning.

Apparently the police received a secret message from the family of Pir Pagharo Sahib of Rohri that the lives of his Zenana party were in immediate danger. The party included his mother, some ladies of his harem, and the younger brother of Pir, who is Muslim chieftain of thousands of followers of the Hurs and Lurs, officially declared a criminal tribe.

CAR PUSHED BY HAND.

The police dashed to Pir's fort, and when a mile away the engine was stopped, and the car pushed by hand in order to avoid the noise of the engine creating suspicions.

The party formed themselves into a human ladder, scaled the citadel wall, and rescued the frightened women. The car was then pushed another mile, and later driven to Sukkur. More cannot be said at present, but sensational developments are expected.

ABDUCTION CHARGE.

PARENTS PARTED OVER GIRL'S COURTSHIP.

Thomas James Godden, 21, residing with his mother at Longstone Road, Eastbourne, was before Mr. Gill, at Westminster Police Court, charged, on a warrant, with abducting a girl of 16 from the custody of her father at Kinnerton Yard, Knightsbridge.

The girl was found living with Godden at Eastbourne, and was brought back by her father.

The girl, tall for her years, said that when she left school she took a situation as a waitress. She had known Godden for some months. They met at Chelsea Town Hall on August Bank Holiday, and had kept company since. She took him to her parents' home, and had told him that she was 17 next birthday—in June. She believed that herself.

On January 17—as there had been a quarrel between her parents over her and the defendant, and her father had left her mother because of it—she left home with Godden and went to his mother's house at Eastbourne.

In a letter to her mother she said that she was going of her own free will, and not through the persuasion of her lover.

Mr. Barker (prosecuting) urged that it was immaterial even if the girl proposed the elopement. At any rate, the case was one for another Court.

Answering defendant, the girl said she was afraid that her father would separate them. Defendant wanted her to stop and face her father, but she persuaded defendant to go away. He had been threatened by her father.

The mother of the girl said she believed, until she saw the birth certificate, that her daughter was 17 next birthday.

Mr. Gill committed defendant for trial, allowing bail.

CIGARETTE TAXES.

£72,000,000 FOR THE U.S. BUDGET IN 1929.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

NEW YORK, Saturday.

Cigarette smoking in the United States increased 13 per cent. last year over 1928, and yielded the Government £72,000,000 in taxes, or £8,000,000 more than 1928. Tax receipts from all tobacco manufactures, cigars, etc., totalled £90,000,000.

North Carolina, which led all the other States in cigarette manufacture, produced 60 per cent. of the nation's total. The cigarette increase is atributed largely to women, who now smoke in trains and other public places, and even on the streets.

POLICE ASSAULT CASE.

HOME OFFICE REFUSE TO TAKE ACTION.

The town clerk of Gateshead has received a letter from the Home Office stating that they cannot take any action to reopen the police disciplinary aspect of the case in which Constables Corrigan and Drummond were successfully sued in the county court for assault damages

It is pointed out by the Home Office that the disciplinary control of the police force is vested by law in the Watch Committee, and the Secretary of State could not properly take any action which would have the effect of reopening their decision in this particular case.

The correspondence, they add, will be brought to the notice of the Inspector of Constabulary for his information when he next reviews the administration of discipline in the force.

NEW POLICE ORDER.

CRITICISM BY LONDON MAGISTRATE.

"The less I say about the new regulation the better; but I see any number of difficulties that I am going to encounter," remarked Mr. Bingley at Marylebone Police Court yesterday, referring to the new order of the Commissioner of Police, under which, since January 20, doctors' reports about prisoners are not attached to the charge sheets, and are therefore withheld from the magistrates.

The new method is for the doctors to report their findings to the accused persons in the presence of the officers who have arrested them. This was done in two cases heard by Mr. Bingley yesterday, in both of which the accused denied being drunk.

In one of them Mr. Bingley remarked: "The officer says you were drunk; you say you were not. How am I to decide? I have no doctor's report now, under the new arrangement."

The accused protested that he asked what the doctor had said, but was not told. He now pleaded guilty, and was ordered to pay the doctor's fee

FIVE YEARS FOR CAR THIEVES.

Sentence of five years' penal servitude each was passed by Judge Gregory, K.C., at the Old Bailey yesterday on John Macdonald, 37, described as a labourer, and Sidney Jackson, 28, also stated to be a labourer, who pleaded guilty to stealing two motor-cars, the property of Dr. Joseph Hunter and Major William McCrimdie.

Dr. Hunter left his car in St. Martin's Lane while he went to the Coliseum, and Major McCrimdie's car was taken from outside his house in Chelsea.

It was alleged that the cars were taken to the garage of George Henry Miles, licensee of the Railway Hotel, Twickenham, who was charged with receiving, but the jury stopped the cast against him, and he was found not guilty and discharged.

£1,000,000 IMPROVEMENT SCHEME.

A scheme to cost over £1,000,000, and covering improvements to many roads, and the construction and improvement of bridges in the county, has been prepared by the Northumberland County Council.

The proposals constitute a five years' programme.

KIDNAPPED RUSSIAN GENERAL.

SUSPECTED OGPU PLOT

THE "WOMAN IN BROWN."

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

PARIS, Saturday.

Public interest in the disappearance of General Koutepoff increases. The international importance of the affair lies in the fact that the General succeeds the late Grand Duke Nicholas in the capacity of Head of the Russian officers of the Tsar who took refuge in France after the Russian revolution.

According to witnesses questioned by the police, a woman in a brown mantle, with a bogus policeman, took part in the kidnapping of the General. This woman is said to have been in the habit of talking every day with the supposed policeman, and to have been present last Sunday morning when the General was induced by a powerfully-built man to step into a taxicab.

It is reported to-day that this woman of mystery has been unearthed by the Sûreté Générale, and subjected to a searching examination.

Her identity, it is said, was revealed to the police by the Russian chauffeur, an ex-officer and friend of General Koutepoff. She is said to be an intimate friend of Mme. Ivanovitch, wife of the head of the Ogpu (the Soviet Secret Police), whose duty it is to keep an eye on the enemies of the Soviet in foreign countries. The police are reticent on the subject of their reported communications with the mysterious woman in brown. There are reasons to believe that the authorities think they have obtained clues which will lead to the arrest of the kidnappers.

On the generally accepted assumption that the General has been kidnapped by the French section of the Ogpu, several newspapers are clamouring for the search of the Soviet Embassy in Paris.

BRIGANDS OF MOSCOW.

M. Léon Daudet's organ *Action Francaise*, says that in the Middle Ages there was no diplomatic immunity preventing a search of a nest of assassins.

The *Echo de Paris* holds the Ambassador, M. Dovgalevsky, responsible for the disappearance of the General, and says it is intolerable that such a personage should be permitted to stay here. "Both the interest and the honour of France," this newspaper asserts, "demand that M. Tardieu should break off relations with this Power. His example would be quickly followed."

"The temper of the people of Paris," says *La Liberté* to-night, "is increasing hour by hour at the thought that such an outrage in broad daylight in their city is possible. It behoves the Government to give expression to the indignation of the whole people. This incident is merely an addition to the list of crimes that have been committed by the Embassy of the Soviet in civilised countries that have been guilty of the folly and the cowardice of recognising the brigands of Moscow."

LULWORTH CASTLE BOOKS.

SALE AT SOTHEBY'S.

Some interesting books belonging to Mrs. Alfred Noyes, removed from the library of Lulworth Castle in consequence of the fire there, are to be sold at Sotheby's on March 3.

They include first editions of Pope, Swift, Dryden and other great English writers.

Among the rarer works, perhaps the most notable is a perfect copy of the "Chastising of God's Children."

"The prouffytable boke for manes soule and right comfortable to the body and specyally in aduersitee and trybulacyon whiche boke is called The Chastysing of Goddes Children." (Westminster, Wynkyn de Worde.)

Its date is about 1492.

There is a hitherto unrecorded "Book of Hours" for English use, printed at Rouen in 1520, with fifty woodcuts.

These works are in black letter, as is also "Eirenarcha, or the office of the Iustices of Peace, together with an exposition of certain difficult and obscure words and termes of the lawes of this Realme." Its date is 1615.

Music, heraldic manuscripts, early works on America, as well as some fine early seventeenth-century flower paintings on vellum, are also included in the sale.

FALSE LABELS.

DAME EDITH LYTTELTON ON U.S. AND BRITAIN.

NEW YORK, Saturday.

The Hon. Mrs. Alfred Lyttelton (Dame Edith Lyttelton, widow of the Right Hon. Alfred Lyttelton), who is on her way home from Japan, speaking at a luncheon given in her honour by the New York chapter of the English-speaking Union, expressed the opinion that many people in England thought people in America "very rich, very grasping, and very uppish." Similarly, she had discovered folks in America who thought the English "very poor, very tyrannical, and very, very slow." It was time, she said, to get rid of such false labels, and the English-speaking Union was one means to that end.

Mrs. Lyttelton foresaw a great confederacy of English-speaking nations bound together by common sentiments. Among these sentiments she enumerated a passionate love of individual things, an almost fantastic love of justice, and tolerance of other people's opinions.—*Reuter.*

BEATEN TO DEATH.

NEGRO LYNCHED BY GEORGIAN MOB.

OCILLA (GEORGIA), Saturday.

A young negro, accused of killing a fourteen-year-old white girl, has been beaten to death near here by a crowd of several hundred men, who carried him off by force from the officer who had arrested him.

The mob afterwards sprinkled the body of its victim with petrol and burned it.

The negro was killed on the very spot where the body of the dead girl, who is the daughter of a prominent farmer, was found last night. This is the first lynching in Georgia for more than three years.—*Reuter.*

THE MASTER PRINTERS.

The passion for Year Books seems to increase annually, and so the "Master Printers' Annual and Typographical Year Book," edited by Mr R. A Austen-Leigh and Mr. Gerard T. Meynell, and published by the former's firm of Spottiswoode and Ballantyne at 12s 6d., is bigger than ever. This year it is particularly proud of itself, because the Lord Mayor, Sir William Waterlow, is a past President of the Federation of Master Printers An immense amount of information dealing with every part of the country is presented in the Annual, and a very interesting section is a "Who's Who in the Printing Trade."

INSURANCE AGENTS TO STRIKE.

The directors of the Co-operative Insurance Union have replied to the National Union of Distributive and Allied Workers that, on the question of the dispute over the proposed reductions in agents' salaries, they cannot agree to the matter being referred to conciliation.

Over 3,000 insurance agents are involved, and the Union has called a strike to begin on Thursday next.

CIVIL SERVANTS SENTENCED.

CORRUPTION OVER SALE OF EX-ENEMY SHARES.

LONG OLD BAILEY TRIAL

The trial of two Civil Servants on charges of corruptly receiving gifts was concluded at the Old Bailey yesterday. It had lasted all the week, and Mr. Justice Avory, at the wish of the jury, decided to sit yesterday to finish it. This is the first time for some years that the Old Bailey has had a Saturday sitting.

Harold James Walter Scott (48) and Frank Daryl Marsden (38) were accused of corruptly receiving gifts from Johann Peter Hauser, a Dutchman, who has left the country, for conniving at the sale of ex-enemy securities at prices below their proper value. The defendants held responsible positions in the Government Department dealing with these sales.

Scott and Marsden, in the witness-box, denied that they had received gifts from Hauser, and stated that payments of money from him were profits on speculations in which the three had been engaged.

HAUSER'S ABSENCE.

Sir Henry Maddocks, K.C., for Marsden, asked the jury to accept the defendants' explanation. It was suggested that Hauser had made illicit profits over gifts to these men, but there was not the slightest evidence of it.

"The suggestion that Hauser has not returned to this country reminds me of the old nursery rhyme, 'Dilly, Dilly, come and be killed,'" Sir Henry commented. "Do you think that a Dutchman is coming here to get into the dock for the sake of two Englishmen? It is ridiculous, yet it is put against these two men. Hauser preferred to take no risks, and he has stopped away. There are many Englishmen of upright character who, in the same position would have acted as Hauser has done."

Mr. Percival Clarke, replying for the Crown, submitted that by improper marking of securities £27,000 had been lost in four cases alone, while from November, 1927, to August, 1928, Scott had received £1,150 from Hauser, and Marsden £522. Why should Hauser make these presents unless he was getting something out of it? It was obvious they were being paid. It had been shown that they had concocted a lie, because their original explanation was that the money was repayment of loans made to Hauser.

JUDGE'S QUESTIONS.

Mr. Justice Avory said the case was of great importance to the State because it concerned ex-enemy property, for which we had to account. It was also of vital importance to the two defendants, who had occupied responsible positions in the Civil Service. It had always been an offence to bribe public officials. Could they accept the defendants' story that they had received money from Hauser as the result of speculations? It was put forward for the first time at the trial, and there were no documents to support it. Was there any intrinsic probability that Hauser, a foreigner, out of mere good nature, out of a sort of philanthropy, should undertake speculations for the benefit of the accused?

Why should not Hauser have come to the court to confirm their story, if it were true? It would not mean that he must go into the dock. But if it were not true, and the money was received as bribes, then there was the best of all reasons why Hauser should not be there, because he would be liable to be charged in the same way as Scott and Marsden.

Defendants were found guilty on all charges, and Mr. Justice Avory sentenced Scott to eighteen months and Marsden to twelve months, both in the Second Division.

PREHISTORIC AXE.

FIND BY WORKMEN WHEN ROADMAKING.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

VIENNA, Saturday.

A battleaxe, stated to be 2,500 years old, has been found by workmen while making a new road near Schwechat, in Lower Austria.

The axe is of fine workmanship and has decorative designs scratched on its surface. It is highly polished.

In the neighbourhood the remains of a Roman villa have been unearthed and an empty Roman grave has been found.

LANCASHIRE FAIR.

WIDESPREAD SHOPPING CAMPAIGNS.

POOLED IDEAS FOR COTTON WEEKS.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

MANCHESTER, Saturday.

The Home Secretary, Mr. J. R. Clynes, will open the Lancashire Cotton Fair at the City Hall, Deansgate, Manchester, on Tuesday, February 11. A distinguished company will be present at the ceremony, which is being broadcast by the B.B.C. through all the North regional stations.

Bigger than the established Leipzig Textile Fair, the Lancashire Cotton Fair, which was inspired and has been sponsored throughout by the *Daily Dispatch*, marks an important and highly-significant development. Every interest concerned in the textile trade has come along to help. Great manufacturing and merchant houses, transport agencies handling export goods, commercial organisations such as the Manchester Cotton Association and the Liverpool Cotton Association are all represented in stands at the Fair; while, beyond the exhibition itself, widespread shopping campaigns and "cotton weeks" are being organised by retailers and Chambers of Trade.

STRIKING INNOVATIONS.

In the months of preparation for the Fair many striking innovations have been seen. For the first time in the cotton industry employers and operatives' representatives have sat in committee together to pool their ideas for the sake of their common good as represented in the welfare of the industry. This committee has advised the *Daily Dispatch* since the inception of the scheme, and will be fully represented on the platform when the Home Secretary—who was himself a half-timer in an Oldham mill when he started life—formally declares the Fair open.

Another movement originating in the Fair has just started at Liverpool. This is the Northern Display Association, a body to be composed of local organisations throughout the North Country, which will have for its aim the pooling of ideas and resources in the retail display of North Country products.

Mr. F. Holroyd, president of the Federation of Master Cotton Spinners' Associations and also of the International Spinners' Federation, will take the chair at the opening ceremony. Among other speakers on that occasion will be Lord Colwyn, as representative of vast manufacturing and commercial interests, and Sir Sydney Skinner, of Messrs. John Barker and Co., the president of the Drapers' Chamber of Trade of the United Kingdom.

THIRD TEXTILE SECTION.

These names alone indicate the scope of the Lancashire Cotton Fair, and the many aspects of business—manufacturing and distributive—intimately concerned in its success. There is every likelihood that, during the period of the Fair, a special train will be run from London to Manchester and back for the transport of a special party of retailers from the south.

The Fair, of course, is coincident with the British Industries Fair at London and Birmingham, and forms, in effect, a third textile section to those exhibitions.

TARIFFS AND COTTON.

EMPLOYERS URGED TO OPPOSE A TRUCE.

An important meeting of the European Section of the Manchester Chamber of Commerce will take place on Wednesday, when a resolution on policy regarding tariff barriers will be submitted.

In the annual report of the board, which was adopted a week or so ago, the following comment was made: "The directors regret that in spite of all the determined efforts in recent years to induce the world at large to begin to reduce tariff barriers, efforts which the board have invariably supported, the present year should have witnessed not reductions but still further increases."

The directors admitted that the opinion seems to be growing that with other countries determined not to reduce their tariff barriers, it is undesirable for Great Britain to tie its own hands with no compensating advantage.

It appears that a considerable element within the Chamber regard this attitude as "sitting on the fence." In the resolution they ask the Chamber to declare a definite policy and to range itself alongside other Chambers which are definitely hostile to a tariff truce.

CANDIDATE AS HECKLER.

LABOUR-COMMUNIST CLASH IN SHEFFIELD.

STEEL TRADE ISSUE.

Candidates:—

Mr. F. Marshall (Lab.).
Mr. F. Hamar Russell (Con.).
Mr. W. A. Lambert (Lib.).
Mr. J. T. Murphy (Com.).

The figures of the 1929 General Election were:—

Mr. A. Ponsonby (Lab.)	20,277
Commander R. I. Money (Con.)...	9,828
Mr. W. A. Lambert (Lib.)	6,612
Labour majority	10,449

Polling Day: February 6.

A personal encounter in an otherwise quietly conducted by-election contest in the Brightside Division of Sheffield arose yesterday between the Communist candidate and his Labour opponent. Alderman Marshall had already declined an invitation to debate the Government's record on a public platform with Mr. Murphy, holding that his time could be more profitably spent in expounding the future intentions of his Party.

When he was addressing a large open air meeting of workers from Tinsfields, one of the biggest steel firms in Sheffield—Mr. Murphy took up a pitch near at hand and started to expound the Communist creed. But growing tired, apparently, of exercising his voice on the few people who gathered around him he abandoned his own meeting and joined the ranks of Alderman Marshall's audience in the rôle of chief heckler. A quick and lively exchange of questions and answers ensued, words began to run high, and the workmen who had stopped to hear the Labour candidate grew impatient with the constant interruptions, and would have dealt roughly with Mr. Murphy had not Alderman Marshall intervened.

STEEL TRADES' NEEDS.

Mr. Hamar Russell, the Conservative candidate, stated yesterday that he had received a number of offers of assistance from former Liberal colleagues. Mr. Russell was at one time chairman of the Sheffield Liberal Federation Executive. He said, "Two old Liberal friends have just offered to lend me their cars for polling day, and I promptly accepted the offer. Others have promised me their votes."

The condition of Sheffield's staple industry and the desirability of safeguarding duties are the main topics of Mr. Russell's speeches. He has the support of several prominent steel manufacturers. One of them has supplied the material for a pamphlet, which states that "Since pre-war days the world production of steel has increased 44 per cent., while our production has increased only 11 per cent., and this in spite of our having during the war increased our productive capacity by over 50 per cent.

"The reason for our smaller production," states the pamphlet, "is not, therefore, on account of any shortage of consumption, but due solely to the fact that Continental firms, owing to their lower taxation and wages, are able to undersell by £1 to £2 a ton on such material as plates and rolled sections, and have invaded our home market, together with those of our Dominions, Colonies, and Dependencies.

"A relatively small safeguarding duty or even a countervailing duty equivalent to foreign bounties would enable us to retain our home market and recapture to a considerable extent the markets of our Dominions, Colonies, and Dependencies."

Liberal speakers yesterday toured the division in a carriage drawn by four horses and addressed a number of open-air meetings.

HUNTING TRAGEDY.

WILD BOAR ATTACKS A STUDENT.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

PRAGUE, Saturday.

A boy has been torn to pieces by a savage wild boar at Leutschau, near Bratislava.

A hunt was in progress in the neighbouring woods, and a large boar that had been wounded by a bullet escaped through the line of beaters and dashed out upon the main road. Passers-by fled in panic, but a student of 17, Georg Skosch, was overtaken by the frantic beast, flung into the ditch, and there torn to pieces by its tusks.

He had over thirty horrible wounds, and died on admission to hospital.

FAMOUS ACTRESSES ROBBED.

GENERAL HELP WHO HELPED HERSELF.

"A DANGEROUS THIEF."

A woman thief with ten previous convictions, who pleaded guilty at the Marylebone Police Court yesterday to robbing Mrs. Julia Emilie Neilson Terry, her daughter, Miss Phyllis Neilson Terry, and another woman of clothing, jewellery, etc., to the value of over £200, was sentenced by Mr. H. C. A. Bingley to twelve months' hard labour.

The accused, Jane Martin, 42, servant, of Marsden Street, Kentish Town, was originally arrested by Detective Oxland on a charge of stealing and receiving a manicure set, value £7 10s., belonging to Mrs Neilson Terry, of 4, Primrose Hill Road, N.W. She was yesterday further charged with stealing at that address a sable fur, silk stockings, and other articles to the value of £79, belonging to Miss Neilson Terry; jewellery, clothing, etc., to the value of £94, belonging to Mrs. Neilson Terry, and jewellery and clothing to the value of £27, belonging to Mrs. Agnes Mary Haller, of Langham House, 197, Albany Street, Regent's Park.

Both Mrs. and Miss Neilson Terry were in court, but did not give evidence.

EMPLOYED AS GENERAL HELP.

Detective Oxland explained that the accused was employed by Mrs. Neilson Terry as a general help from August, 1928, to September, 1929, on which day she was discharged under suspicion of theft. Soon after she entered the house, 4, Primrose Hill Road, property began to disappear. The police were called in, but they were unable to discover the thief About this time Miss Neilson Terry went on tour, leaving some personal belongings at her mother's house. When she returned the prisoner packed the things, and, when eventually they were unpacked at Miss Neilson Terry's flat, 44, Welbeck Street, a large number of things were found to be missing. Again, however, all efforts to trace the thief failed. It was only, in fact, whilst witness was investigating the fourth charge that definite evidence against the prisoner was discovered After leaving Mrs. Neilson Terry's service she entered the employment of Mrs. Haller as cook-general, and at once property began to disappear. Witness was called in to investigate the loss of a valuable ring and a brooch, and spoke to the prisoner about it. She denied all knowledge of the articles. He then told her that he had a pawnticket relating to a manicure set belonging to Mrs. Neilson Terry which had been stolen. She said she knew nothing about it, and also denied all knowledge of a number of other articles missed by Mrs. Terry.

BOUGHT THE TICKET.

She became most indignant, said the officer, told him he could prove nothing against her, and asked what right he had to question her. He produced the pawnticket for the manicure set. She said she had never seen it before. He then called in Mrs. Haller's other maid, who stated that she bought the ticket from the prisoner for 5s. just before Christmas. Prisoner was then arrested, and at her address witness found fifty pawntickets and a large quantity of property. Most of this property, and that referred to in the pawntickets, had been identified by Mrs. and Miss Neilson Terry and Mrs. Haller. Only £70 worth of property out of a total of £208 worth stolen had been recovered.

The officer added that there were ten previous convictions against the prisoner, including one of twelve months' imprisonment. She was a very dangerous woman, who was prepared to throw suspicion upon innocent people, and the only thing he could say in her favour was that she was hard-working and clean "But she is a terrible liar," he said.

Mr. Bingley, in sentencing the accused to twelve months' hard labour, said it was as bad a case as he had had to deal with. This woman, with ten previous convictions, got into respectable households and stole every thing that she could lay her hands on.

MAIL-BAG THEFTS.

QUESTION OF INSURING AGAINST LOSS.

The many mail-bag robberies which have occurred during the past twelve months have been the subject of serious consideration for some weeks past. Representatives of leading banks have been in close association with officials of the General Post Office, and a number of conferences have been held regarding the theft of valuables sent through the post.

It is understood that one of the questions debated has been that of insurance against losses. A prominent part in the conferences has been taken by Mr. R. Holland-Martin, who, in addition to being president of the Institute of Bankers, is also secretary of the Committee of Clearing Bankers.

No official statement so far has been issued, but on inquiry at the Institute of Bankers yesterday it was stated that the meetings between the representative bodies had been in progress for some time, and that satisfactory progress had been made.

SEIZED AS RUM-RUNNER

BRITISH CAPTAIN DENIES CHARGES.

SAN PEDRO, CAL., Saturday.

The coastguard officials declare that they had received reports that the British motor-ship Northern Register, which was seized by a coastguard patrol yesterday while cruising off St. Nicholas Island, had delivered a consignment of liquors farther up the California coast. The only contraband found on board was half a case of whisky and two of beer.

The captain of the Northern Register, the engineer and a deckhand were detained. The captain denies that the boat was engaged in rum-running, and states that she was en route for Mexico with a cargo of fish.—*Reuter.*

WEST END STREETS "UP."

SCOTLAND YARD WARNS DRIVERS TO AVOID REPAIRS AREA.

The work of repairing New Oxford Street and St. Giles Circus will begin to-morrow, and to minimise traffic congestion the Commissioner of Police advises drivers of vehicles to avoid that spot as much as possible.

During the first part of the work west-bound traffic will be diverted by way of (1) Shaftesbury Avenue to Cambridge Circus, or (2) Shaftesbury Avenue and High Street, Bloomsbury, and east-bound traffic by way of Tottenham Court Road, Great Russell Street or Bedford Avenue and Bloomsbury Street.

North- and south-bound traffic in Charing Cross Road and Tottenham Court Road will operate as usual until the street works reach St. Giles Circus South-bound traffic in Tottenham Court Road will be diverted by way of Bedford Avenue, Bloomsbury Street, and Shaftesbury Avenue.

The diversion will be suitably sign-posted, and the road will be ordinarily used as two-way streets except that portion of High Street, Bloomsbury, between Denmark Street and St. Giles Circus.

SIR THOMAS BEECHAM ILL.

Sir Thomas Beecham, who is at present in Germany, has contracted an attack of influenza which, though fortunately not serious, is sufficient to prevent him from travelling for several days. He will, therefore, be unable to conduct the twelfth of the series of B.B.C. symphony concerts at the Queen's Hall next Wednesday.

Mr. Leslie Heward, who has consented at short notice to take his place, is the young British conductor who was for a considerable time in charge of the Cape Town orchestra which he brought to this country on tour.

REDS IN GERMANY

M.P.s AMONG 77 ARMED MEN ARRESTED.

MOSCOW'S ORDERS FOR STREET RIOTING.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

BERLIN, Saturday.

February 1 was underlined in red by the German Communist leaders, who, in obedience to orders from Moscow, and in defiance of police prohibitions, had planned demonstrations, in the suppression of which they hoped that blood would be shed.

The Communists' plan was to incite unemployed youths, who have nothing to lose, to resist, with all possible violence, the efforts of the police to maintain order in the streets, and, by hurling missiles of all kinds at the police, to provoke serious fighting. They seek also to irritate the workers by painting to them in bright colours what they describe as "dastardly police attacks on harmless unemployed."

HAMBURG QUIET.

An atmosphere favourable to this policy was produced by the attempts at rioting in Hamburg, which had to be suppressed by force of arms, and by efforts to create disturbances in various industrial centres. The Hamburg police have not permitted themselves to be provoked to lose their heads; they have succeeded, so far, in quelling disorders, and are now masters of the situation, quite ready for the "hunger march" or other provocative demonstration that may be attempted this evening or to-morrow. The march itself has been frustrated by a series of arrests, but the Communist agitation has been very active, and may yet bear fruit.

Berlin police, also, are fully prepared for any Communist action to-day or to-morrow, and are confident that they are masters of the situation. There is no truth in the assertion of the Communist Press, it is authoritatively stated, that several battalions of Reichswehr are concentrating on Berlin. The authorities believe that the police are strong enough to deal with any uprising.

The police made a good haul late last night. They learned that the Communist leaders were met in the large hall of a restaurant in the east of the city, and, suspecting the nature of the deliberations, they sent a strong force to isolate the building. A group of well-armed police then entered the room where the conference was proceeding, and declared the whole company arrested.

SEVENTY-SEVEN ARRESTS.

There were seventy-seven men, all functionaries in the Communist Party, and among them several Communist members of the Reichstag and of the Prussian Parliament; and the police believe that these men were to have been active leaders in attempts to produce riots in Berlin and Hamburg to-day or to-morrow, and were preparing their final plans of attack. All the men arrested were in possession of arms, either revolvers, daggers, or knuckledusters, and the police were able to confiscate documents which gave them valuable political information.

Leaflets have been distributed among the unemployed this morning in which the workless are ordered by the Communists not to give way one inch when the police attempt to disperse them, and to show that the workers insist on the streets being free to them whatever the police may order. The Communist tactics, obviously, are to keep the police continually on the alert by organising small disturbances in different parts of the city, and then, when the police are worn out and become nervous, to make a big attack somewhere to-night or to-morrow.

All is quiet at present. The Berlin police are patrolling the streets in their unusual strength, and fast motor lorries, filled with armed police, move from place to place to ensure that there are no large crowds gathering in streets.

In Hamburg, also, there is calm again this evening, after some disturbances during the day. In one street riot three armed policemen were surrounded and beaten by a mob. They are now in hospital. Several of their assailants were arrested. Work at the port is going on, in spite of the attempt to organise a partial strike. One young Communist, shot in yesterday's rioting, has since died. The Communist newspapers have been banned.

BURGLARY CHARGES.

SILVER MISSED FROM A SURREY RESIDENCE.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

WOKING, Saturday.

Discovering that some silver which is alleged to have been stolen from the residence of Lady Beatrice Skelton at Pirbright was offered for sale at a shop in Woking on Friday night, Superintendent Boshier obtained a search warrant, and, with his flying squad, made a raid on some houses in the Knaphill area.

At one house, it is alleged, he discovered a large quantity of silver and a sewing machine, and, as a result, he made three arrests.

At Woking Police Court to-day Albert Binstead, 21, paper seller, Herbert Haggett, 23, and Alfred Oliver, 20, golf caddies, were remanded in custody, charged with having broken into Lady Skelton's residence last August and stolen a quantity of silver plate, bedding, jam, a sewing machine, towels, blankets, clothing, and a large African hat.

Superintendent Boshier offered evidence of arrest, but added that among the property recovered were articles connected with other burglaries, and that when the accused came before the court again many more charges would be made.

MISHAP TO EXPRESS.

BROKEN CONNECTING ROD CAUSES DELAY.

A G.W.R. express from Reading to the North met with an accident yesterday when approaching Birmingham. The connecting-rod on the locomotive snapped and ploughed up the permanent way for some distance. The driver pulled up, and trains on the up and down lines were stopped while an examination was made.

Another engine was procured, and the express proceeded on its journey after considerable delay.

LORD EBURY'S HUNTING MISHAP.

Lord Ebury has sustained severe injuries as the result of an accident while out hunting with the Fernie Pack at Market Harborough and it is feared that he will be kept out of the field for the remainder of the season. He was thrown from his horse and carried to his residence, where it was found after examination that he had torn a hip muscle.

Lord Ebury fought with the Canadians in the war, and he won the D.S.O. with bar and the M.C. also with bar. After his school days at Harrow he learnt mining, and worked as an ordinary pit hand. Afterwards he went out to Canada and set up as a rancher, until he succeeded his brother in the Peerage.

HANGED IN COFFEE STALL.

When a man opened his coffee-stall at the junction of Greyhound Hill and Watford Way, Hendon, yesterday morning, he found a man hanging by a piece of wire to a wooden crossbeam.

The body was later identified as that of Kenneth Lucas, aged about 27, of Watford Way, Hendon.

TO-DAY'S EVENTS.

THE CHURCHES.

St. Paul's Cathedral.—10.30: Prebendary E. W. Sharpe; 3.15: Canon S. A. Alexander; 7: Bishop Gore.

Westminster Abbey.—10.15: Rev. H. M. Dale; 3: Canon V. F. Storr; 6.30: Bishop of Woolwich.

Southwark Cathedral.—11: Rev. S. G. Hooper (Forest Hill); 6.30: Bishop of Southwark.

Chapel Royal, St. James's.—11.15: Canon S. Bickersteth.

Chapel of the Savoy.—11.15 and 6: Rev. Hugh B. Chapman.

Temple Church.—11: The Master; 3: Music. Gray's Inn Chapel.—11.15: Rev. W. R. Matthews, D.D.

All Hallows', Barking-by-the-Tower.—11: Rev. H. C. Money; 6.30: Rev. L. S. R. Beckley.

All Saints', Ennismore Gardens.—11: Rev. A. E. N. Simms; 6.30: Rev. B. R. V. Mills.

All Souls', Langham Place.—11 and 6.30: Rev. O. Brenton.

Brompton Parish Church.—11 and 3.15 (children): Prebendary Gough; 6.30: Rev. H. S. Sard.

Christ Church, Lancaster Gate.—11.15 and 3: Rev. R. Beresford-Peirse; 6: Dr. H. M. Relton.

Christ Church, Cosway Street, Marylebone.—11: Rev. E. J. Dent; 3.15 and 6.30: Rev. T. G. B. Kay.

Holy Trinity, Sloane Street.—11.15: Rev. C. Cheshire; 3: Rev. Dr. Dearmer; 6.30 (Confirmation): Bishop of Kensington.

Holy Trinity, Paddington.—11 and 6.30: Rev. J. M. Vallance.

St. Clement Danes, Strand.—11: The Rector; 6.30: Rev. W. Kingston, M.A.

St. Etheldreda the Virgin, Bishopsgate, E.C.—11 and 6.30: Rev. Dr. Geikie-Cobb.

St. George's, Bloomsbury.—11: Bishop of Stepney; 6.30: Rev. W. C. Roberts.

St. George's, Hanover Square.—11: Prebendary Thicknesse; 6.30: Rev. A. V. Dixon.

St. James's, Piccadilly.—11: Ven. C. E. Lambert; 6.15: Rev. E. S. Smith.

St. John's, Regent's Park.—11: Rev. T. G. B. Kay; 6.30: Rev E. J. Dent.

St. Margaret's, Westminster.—11: Canon Carnegie; 7: Rev. Eustace Jervis.

St. Mark's, N. Audley Street.—11: Rev. W. G. Pennyman; 6.30: Rev. Eric Barnes.

St. Mary-at-Hill Eastcheap.—7: "Mail Bags Mysteries," the Rector.

St. Marylebone Parish Church.—11: Rev. Dr. Morrison; 7: Rev. H. Bourne

St. Nicholas Cole Abbey, Queen Victoria Street.—11 and 7 Rev. A. McCheane, M.A.

St. Paul's, Knightsbridge.—11.15: Rev. E. K. C. Hamilton; 3 (children) and 6.30: Rev. L. F. Williams.

St. Paul's, Onslow Square.—11: Rev. R. L. G. Wright; 6.30: Mr. Arthur S. Wood.

St. Paul's Portman Square.—11 and 7: Dr. Stuart Holden.

St. Peter's, Eaton Square.—11.15, 3 (children), and 6.30: Rev. A. Thompson.

St. Columba's (Church of Scotland), Pont Street.—11: Rev. Dr. A. Fleming; 6.30: Rev. A. Tollard

Westminster Cathedral.—10.30: H.M. (Hasler); 12: L.M., Rev. J. E. Hathway; 3.15: V. Mag. (Vittoria); 7: Comp. T.L. (Tallis), "Ave Regina" (Byrd), Rev L. Long.

St. George's Cathedral.—10.30: Blessing of Candles, H.M.; 12: M., Rev. L. Bovington; 6.30: V., Rev. T. Brady.

Farm Street Church.—10.50: H.M.; 12: L.M., Rev. F. Woodlock; 3.30: Rev. R. H. J. Steuart.

The Oratory.—10.45: Procession and H.M.; 3.22: V. and B.

Central Hall, Westminster.—11 and 7: Rev. D. T. Young; 3.30: Dr. A. W. Harrison, M.C.

Kingsway Hall.—11 and 7: Rev. Ira G. Goldhawk.

City Temple.—11 and 7: Rev. L. D. Weatherhead.

Lyndhurst Road Congregational Church, Hampstead.—11 and 6.30: Dr. R. F. Horton.

Westminster Congregational Church.—11 and 7: Rev. H. L. Simpson.

Regent Square Presbyterian Church.—11 and 7: Rev. G. T. Bellhouse.

St. John's Wood Presbyterian Church.—11 and 6.30: Rev. Dr. Alexander.

Bayswater Presbyterian Church.—11 and 6.30: Rev. A. G. Gamble.

Emperor's Gate Presbyterian Church.—11 and 6.30: Dr. W. D. Maxwell.

Christ Church, Westminster Bridge Road: 11 and 7: Dr. Wm. C. Poole.

King's Weigh House, Duke Street.—11 and 7: Dr. W. E. Orchard.

Brixton Independent Church.—11 and 6.45: Rev. Dr. Garvie.

Spiritualist Community, Grotrian Hall, 115, Wigmore Street, W.—11: Miss L. Ford; 6.30: Admiral Armstrong Clairvoyant: Miss Lily Thomas.

Theistic Church, Æolian Hall, 135, New Bond Street.—11: Rev. J. Tyssul Davis. Subject: "What Did Jesus Get Out of It?"

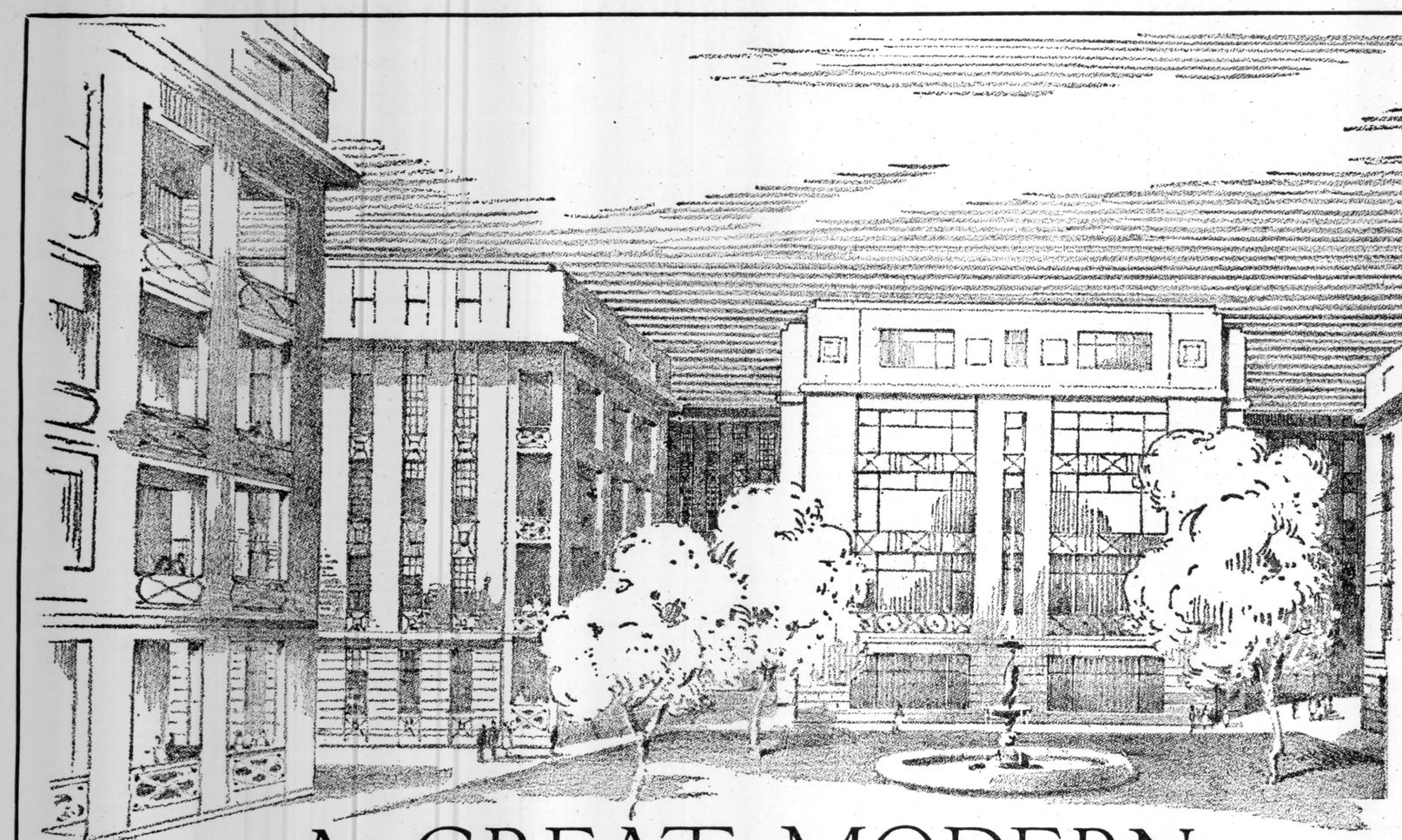
Marylebone Presbyterian Church.—11 and 7: Rev. J. Golder Burns, B.D.

Liberal Jewish Synagogue, St. John's Wood Road.—11.30: Mr. Basil L. Q. Henriques on "Judaism in the East End."

MEETINGS, MUSIC, Etc.

St. Columba's (Church of Scotland), Pont Street.—3: British Legion Memorial Service for Earl Haig. 4: Memorial Service, Dryburgh Abbey.

St. Mark's



A GREAT MODERN TEMPLE OF HEALTH

"A TEMPLE OF HEALTH"—this great conception confronts us as a challenge from ancient Greece to modern times: a noble ideal, largely lost sight of for many centuries and still awaiting its high fulfilment. Big ideas, humanitarian or humanistic, have seized upon man's imagination and big men have come forward, eagerly, to support them. But in the pursuit of *these* exalted Ideals, benefactors have missed the need to make *paramount* the Ideal which is the very foundation of them all:—to ensure the building of a race, both physically sound and mentally vigorous, without which these other ideals, however zealously pursued, can never attain full realisation. Our most practical leaders have set up enduring Monuments for all time to Peace, to Education, to Science and to the Arts. But medical science, starved of adequate support, has ever remained handicapped.

Does not this building of a super-structure without regard to the foundations make a Mæcenas or a Medici the Magnificent less great in their munificent patronage than a medieval Englishman whose name should spring more readily to *our* lips than those of Horace's friend and the Dictator of Florence? Dick Whittington, thrice Lord Mayor of London, is surely a name that, for all English-speaking people, should be inscribed "The Magnificent," for while he did much in true princely fashion to support art and education, he clearly appreciated that education is a mockery and art a will-o'-the-wisp to a nation that is without health.

Thus we find that Sir Richard Whittington, in addition to providing libraries and furthering art and education, rebuilt churches and prisons, erected almshouses, gave London fresh drinking water, and providing for an early reconstruction of Barts (in the words of an old ballad quoted by Sir John Watney):

"Built the stately hospital that still
Shines like an angel's lanthorne through the night,
The stately halls of St. Bartholomew."

Whittington the Magnificent.

And to-day there is a call for a modern Whittington the Magnificent—someone to do for the British people what the great benefactor of mankind, Mr. Rockefeller, is doing for Americans and other nations. Mr. Rockefeller's recent gift to the Paris Faculty of Medicine of £1,250,000 provided a similar amount is found, has yet to be paralleled in Great Britain.

The need is great. The voluntary system—one of the glories of our heritage of customs—has made our hospitals the admiration of other countries. This has been due to such philanthropists as Dick Whittington 500 years ago, Bernhard Baron, "Audax," and many others departed and living, as well as the whole-hearted help of a generous general public.

To-day this country's financial problems are unprecedented; the flow of population to London continues; the national demands for medical service and the requirements of medical science grow apace. Thus our *national* teaching hospitals are faced with difficulties which threaten to hamper their efficiency, delay the discovery of the cause, cure, mastery over, and prevention of, disease; and are a source of grave disquiet to the medical profession.

Moreover, there is one vital fact which every reader should fully realise and never forget. Whether or no he is ever likely to become a patient at any of our great hospitals, the skill and experience of his own medical advisers (celebrated specialist and general practitioner alike) must depend upon the comprehensive knowledge acquired during their medical training. This, in its turn, must directly depend upon the hospital—(1) being highly efficient, (2) treating a great variety of complicated—and even obscure—cases in every department, and (3) being completely equipped with the latest apparatus whatever the cost; all of which can only be provided and maintained in great *national* medical teaching institutions. Nor does Barts vital importance to the reader end there. For it is only by keeping *au fait* with the research work, developments in treatment, and technical advances evolved therein, that its doctors can ensure remaining up-to-date.

What is Your Life Worth to You?

Every man, whatever his power, position, or wealth, must at least twice in his life, be served by doctors and nurses trained in *national* teaching hospitals, and must depend on the training these hospitals provide. And what *they* give us comes from what we, in our turn, give them. If we make for ourselves efficient *national* teaching hospitals, we shall have efficient doctors and nurses: if we do not, we cannot expect security. That is the position in a nutshell.

To-day the Royal Hospital of St. Bartholomew is making the second widespread, public appeal in its 800 years of history. It comes forward with a comprehensive Reconstruction Scheme designed to provide for its urgent needs, and to further the advance towards its goal of becoming a modern Temple of Health. Our architects still honour in practice the perfect lines of Greek buildings and temples; Barts aims at realising the ideal which those buildings and temples were constructed to serve. Have we not stood too long outside the Temple of Aesculapius and admired and copied its exterior beauty? Is it not time we entered and learned to honour and to revive the spirit in which it was dedicated to the Ideal of Health?

The Demand for Extension.

The History of St. Bartholomew's—which is the history of the English-speaking people—has been one of grave responsibility and ceaseless struggle of the Governors for that vital support necessary for medical scientific progress and to keep pace with the growing population of each generation.

Barts Reconstruction Scheme has already begun. After repeated compulsory postponements, the great new surgical block and the block of six large operation theatres with annexes are in course of erection, and are nearing completion.

The cost of these important additions and their equipment remains to be met; the increased maintenance expenses have yet to be provided. It has not been possible even to initiate the further important plans for a thorough internal reconstruction of the existing quadrangle blocks, which have been standing for two hundred years, and which naturally in many respects are therefore inadequate and inconvenient for the greatly advanced practice of to-day.

The number of in-patients is mechanically limited by the number of beds. Without more beds the number of persons treated can only be increased by dangerously hastening the discharge of patients, a policy which Barts has always refused to entertain.

The large and well equipped modern out-patient block of 1907, though still awaiting the erection of portions of its original plan, has done much to meet the rapid increase of attendances, which have *doubled* since the war. During the ten years from 1919 to 1928 these totalled 3,535,568, the annual figures going up steadily from 229,750 to 442,988. At this rate the attendances for the subsequent ten years (1929 to 1938) would reach 5,776,140, and for the last year would number 669,750—a demand which could not possibly be met by the present accommodation.

A Few Barts Statistics.

Cycles of 5 years	In-patients provided with beds	Out-patients Attendances	Ambulance Accident Cases	Ordinary Expenditure (excluding building and additions)
1914-18	36,280	1,269,752	7,755	£537,599
1919-23	41,525	1,558,847	11,212	£845,279
1924-28	45,272	1,976,721	14,378	£925,995

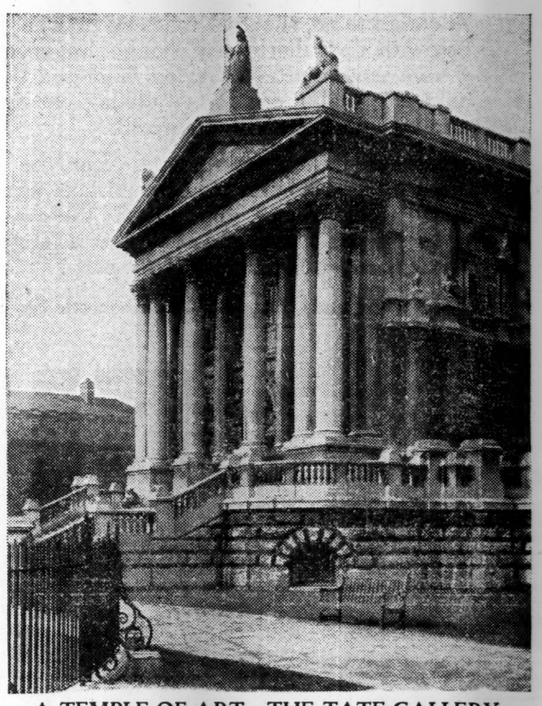
Cycles of 5 years	Gauze (yards)	Bandages (number used)	Chloroform and Ether (ozs.)	Cod Liver Oil (pints)	Malt (lbs.)	Liquid Paraffin (pints)
1914-18	826,800	598,320	83,328	10,200	44,240	3,796
1919-23	964,500	614,736	102,592	12,600	43,120	17,704
1924-28	1,422,480	816,336	178,752	10,800	58,240	72,840

There is grave necessity for the expansion of ordinary in-patient and out-patient service in many directions, and additional buildings are urgently required for other essential activities, including provision to satisfy the clamour for a pay-bed block.

Detailed plans are ready for reconstructions and extensions of vital and immediate importance. These will provide, on the property of the Hospital, for the long-needed enlargement and re-organisation of the specialist departments which serve both in-patients and out-patients, for children, orthopædics and massage in a new block. The removal of these cases will also provide for extension of the present cramped X-ray, Electrical and other special departments. More extensive provision is urgently needed for Obstetric and Gynæcological wards, with operation theatre and annexes; as the present accommodation only provides 58 beds for all cases—no more than 16 for Maternity.

Many departments of the medical college buildings are inadequate for present-day demands. Designed originally for half the present number of students, they are now seriously overcrowded by 700.

The departments for Anatomy, Chemistry and Biology are particularly ill-served, in obsolete and inadequate buildings which must be demolished. A modern, up-to-date new block has been planned for lecture theatres, laboratories and annexes in these subjects on a site adioining the Harvey Laboratories.



A TEMPLE OF ART—THE TATE GALLERY.
One of the notable Benefactions of the Nineteenth Century.

No less urgent is the need for a Residential College. Medical men, highly trained in an *alma mater* of the best environment, traditions and standards, are of vital necessity to the nation.

The Keystone of Research.

Finally we come to the very *keystone* of medical scientific progress—Research. Every branch of science contributes to-day to our knowledge and understanding of health; and generous endowment is gravely needed if the Hospital is to remain the home of research and discovery on which all advance in medical practice must ultimately depend.

Without determined and whole-hearted public support—pence, shillings and pounds—The Royal Hospital of St. Bartholomew cannot completely fulfil its great mission; and its part in the advance of medicine must inevitably dwindle. On this, the eight hundred and seventh anniversary of its foundation, its problems and difficulties are frankly stated in full confidence that the people will not fail this Home of Mercy in its hour of need, but will rally to the aid of a *national* hospital whose foundations belong to the foundations of the British Commonwealth itself.

A Beacon Light.

Surrounded by London's munificently endowed monuments of Science, Learning and the Arts, the Royal Hospital of St. Bartholomew is daily signalling with its beacon-light a call for the goodwill and practical support of every man and woman of the English-speaking people in its continued efforts to achieve the sacred vision of its founder, Rahere. That, thus sustained in the heart of mankind by every known medical and scientific weapon for the conquest of disease, it may stand itself a Beacon of Light in the great movement towards the achievement of the Ideal—a Great Modern Temple of Health.

FORM OF CONTRIBUTION OR PROMISE.
To the Honorary Treasurer,
THE RT. HON. LORD STANMORE, C.V.O.,
St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Smithfield,
London, E.C.1.

I ENCLOSE.....for £ : :
towards Barts Great Reconstruction Fund.
I will subscribe £ : : each year to the Hospital
I promise £ : : as a Contribution towards the above Fund.
I will contribute a further sum of £ : :
spread over.....equal annual payments.

Signature .....
Address .....
.....

A printed official receipt will be sent to all contributors.

Given by a king, built by a monk, trusted by citizens, sustained by public charity, and dear to the people as a holy refuge: for eight hundred years, aided by all the monarchs of the realm, The Royal Hospital of St. Bartholomew has held and nourished the Heart and Spirit of the People.

The ROYAL HOSPITAL *of* ST. BARTHOLOMEW

Patron: HIS MAJESTY THE KING. President: H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES, K.G. Hon. Treasurer: THE RT. HON. LORD STANMORE, C.V.O.

Please apply for "101 Ways of Aiding Barts," and booklet entitled "Barts Great Reconstruction"; address all communications and proposals regarding the Appeal to A. F. Shepherd, Esq., Appeal Director, St. Bartholomew's Hospital, Smithfield, E.C.1. Appeal Office Tel.: Nat. 2860.

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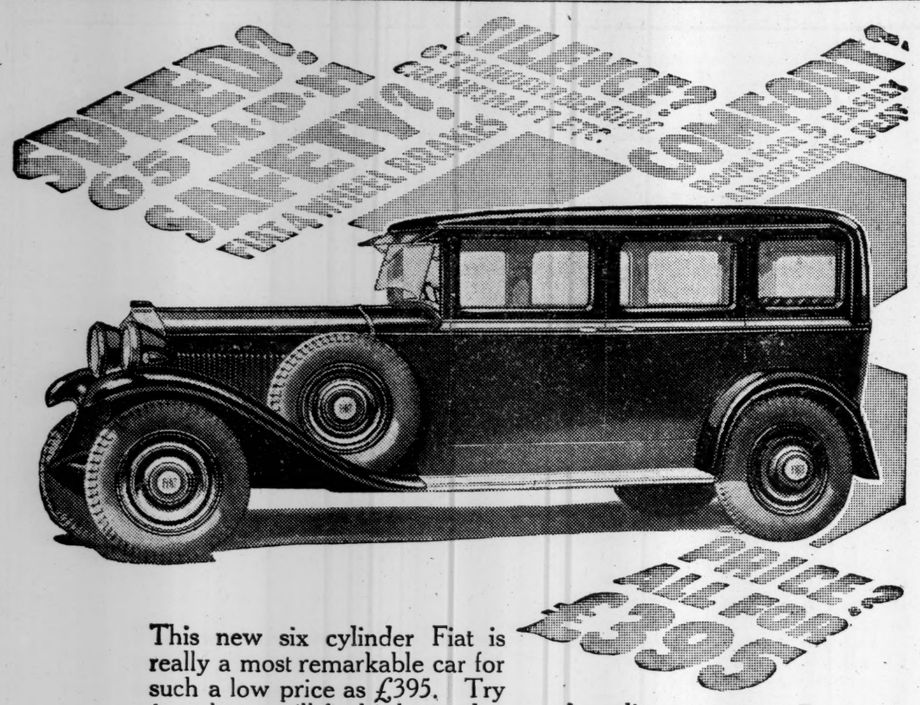

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and numerous other ailments that make you feel only *half*-fit, *half*-alive. Prunol removes constipation, purifies the blood, revives the appetite, and makes you better.

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There is no better remedy for constipation than Prunol, because it is the *natural* remedy It is made from selected prunes, ginger, demerara sugar, and senna. After much experimenting the most effective blending of the ingredients was obtained runol was the favourite prescription of the late Sir James Paget. Prunol does its work thoroughly, but is so gentle in action that even invalids and infants may be safely given it.

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Order a jar from your chemist to-day.

PRUNOL PRODUCTS LTD., 28, BUCKINGHAM GATE, LONDON, S.W.1.

THE UNIVERSITIES.

FUTURE OF NOTED OXFORD CHURCH.

HELP FOR FRESHMEN.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

OXFORD, Saturday.

It is proposed to make extensive structural alterations in the church of St. Mary-the-Virgin, which is used both as a parish church and by the University. The lack of accommodation for a large congregation has become more and more marked of recent years. The Principal of Hertford, Sir W. R. Buchanan-Riddell, outlined the scope in Congregation when he introduced the Decree:—

That the consent of the University be given to certain structural alterations in the south wall of Adam de Brome's Chapel, provided that no part of the expense for the alterations shall fall upon the University.

The Principal said that by removing the gallery on the north side of the church and the wall beneath it, and substituting for that wall a wooden partition, with folding doors, a double purpose would be achieved: on the occasions of the University sermon Adam de Brome's Chapel would continue to be a separate building, while on other occasions the doors could be opened and the chapel included for congregational purposes as a transept of the church, providing more accommodation than would be forfeited by the loss of the gallery.

The historic associations of the pulpit made it desirable that it should remain exactly where it is now; nor would the seats of the Vice-Chancellor and Proctors be noticeably affected. He did not feel that any æsthetic objections could be made to the removal of the north gallery, and the more practical aspects of the scheme, including the provision of a choir vestry and improved heating, made it altogether desirable.

ÆSTHETIC IMPULSE.

Professor Webb, however, opposed the Decree. The church, he said, had been made such a prey to æsthetic impulse in the last century, when restoration and alterations were continually being carried out, that he could not now feel satisfied that the University should feel itself altogether content at giving formal consent to that part of the change which affected its legal rights so long as its own pocket was not touched. He would prefer, if anything was to be done at all, to see a more expanded plan carried out, and have the University contribute towards it.

Mr. Cyril Bailey, who is a member of the St. Mary's Parochial Church Council, said they intended not to ignore history, but to re-create it. He hoped the University would interest itself in the matter.

The Decree was passed by forty-seven votes to ten.

UNIVERSITY EXTENSION LECTURES.

The report of the delegates for extra-mural studies for the year ending on September 30 has just been issued. After expressing their regret at the loss of Dr. Joseph Wells, who served them as lecturer, examiner, delegate, and chairman, they record a new experiment undertaken at the beginning of the academic year, in the form of a "Methods of Study" course for those coming up to the University for the first time. The students had all agreed as to the benefit they had derived from the course, which had helped them to settle down quickly and easily.

Fewer courses were delivered in the session 1928-29 than in the previous year. The loss of some centres is accounted for by the fact that many of the newer universities are developing their facilities for extra-mural study, and the increase by the Oxford Delegacy of new work in the counties surrounding Oxford may be regarded as a set-off to decline in the number of its more distant centres.

Fifteen awards of scholarships or bursaries tenable at a university or other institution for full-time study have been gained during the last year by students from the Oxford classes.

THE UNION.

There was a surprisingly small house for the Union Debate on Thursday, considering the presence of two distinguished visitors. Mr. Alec Waugh and Mr W. A. Darlington. The motion was "That dramatic critics are the curse of the drama," and Mr. Darlington, in a manner most disarmingly ingenuous, defended his position with some forceful argument. Mr. Waugh, on the other side, took a great deal of trouble, but his speech was less stimulating. Of the undergraduate speakers, Mr. J. P. W. Mallalieu was perhaps the best. The motion was lost by a large majority.

The Sidney Ball lecture for 1930 will be delivered on February 7 by Sir William Beveridge, director of the London School of Economics. His subject will be "The Past and Present of Unemployment Insurance."

CAMBRIDGE.

FEW UNDERGRADUATES LISTEN IN.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

CAMBRIDGE, Saturday.

The Union Society this week declared its conviction by 161 votes to 25 that the British Broadcasting Corporation had justified its existence. The "owner-listeners" (who objected to being called licensees) expressed views which were certainly interesting, for rarely—apart from newspaper correspondents, whose views are seldom typical—is criticism of the B.B.C. by reasonably intelligent persons made public. Mr. Aubrey Herbert from Oxford, whose set had been given him, was, as ever, witty, and in addition very critical of Sir John Reith's dogmatism.

Later in the debate, a distinguished guest, Mr. Stobart, the B.B.C. Director of Education, quoted from the Royal Charter the ultimate ambition of the Corporation "to educate and entertain"; the order is interesting.

His lucid explanation of a few of the problems with which he had to contend was greatly appreciated, for there are few subjects on which the average citizen is so ill-informed It is to be hoped that the surprisingly large majority in his favour will aid him to support the heat and burden of the day—or rather night.

Incidentally, it is surprising how few undergraduates listen in. It is due, perhaps, partly to the impracticability of aerials in College rooms and lodging houses, and partly to the many other evening attractions. Most undergraduates must have been speaking from their vacation rather than term time experiences.

The Burney prize for 1929, awarded for essay on a subject connected with the philosophy of religion, has been gained by the Rev. William Hopkins, of Sidney Sussex, formerly of Tregaron County Intermediate School. It is valued at £50. A second prize is awarded to Mr T. W. Naylor, Christ's College, formerly of Liverpool Collegiate School. The subject given out was "The place of æsthetic values in the argument for Theism."

APPOINTMENTS.

J. E. King and L. C. Gutsell have been elected to choral studentships at St John's College.

Mr Arthur Beeney Appleton, University Lecturer in Anatomy, has been elected to a non-stipendiary Fellowship at Downing College.

I. L. Lewis, B.A., and W. J. Phillips Williams have been elected to MacMahon Law Studentships at St John's College.

The Director of the Solar Physics Observatory has appointed J. C. Dobbie, Trinity College, to be first Junior Observer.

The Archbishop of York will speak in Great St. Mary's Church at 8.30 to-morrow.

THE MARLOWE SOCIETY.

On February 11 the Marlowe Dramatic Society are to produce "Henry IV," Part II More than most societies in Cambridge, the

Continued on next column.

NEW FELLOWS AT KING'S COLLEGE.

A WORLD SHORTAGE OF ECONOMISTS.

WIRELESS RESEARCH.

By OUR LONDON UNIVERSITY CORRESPONDENT.

King's College has just added to its already distinguished list five new fellows. They are:—

Sir J. Lulham Pound, who represents the L.C.C. on the College Delegacy and is also the Treasurer of the College Council.

Sir John Harrowing, one time evening student at King's, and now Chairman of the Harrowing Steamship Company and an ex-High Sheriff of Yorkshire.

Brigadier-General Magnus Mowat, former student of the College in the Applied Science Department, President of the Old Students' Association, 1925-27, and now Secretary of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers.

Professor Cock, a student in the Day Training Department from 1902 to 1905, elected A.K.C. in 1905, Assistant Master of Method in the Department of Education from 1906 to 1919, and now Professor of Education at University College, Southampton.

Professor Smiles, Daniell Professor of Chemistry since 1920, and previously Professor of Organic Chemistry at Armstrong College.

ECONOMIC SCIENCE.

Professor L. C. Robbins gave his inaugural lecture as Professor of Economics at the School of Economics on Thursday afternoon, taking as his subject "The Present Position of Economic Science." The Director of the School, who was in the chair, welcomed him as the first of the post-war students of the School who have been appointed to one of its chairs.

There is something like a world famine of professors of economics at the present time, intensified by such events as the appointment of Professor Clay and Mr Sprague as Economic Advisers to the Bank of England, and the prospective appointment of "at least two economists" to the staff of the Government's Economic Council Many of the great universities of America are in the same difficulty in filling their chairs and getting an adequate staff, as are many of the universities in this country

It is, therefore, refreshing to find that there are still some economists left in the purely academic field, and it was interesting that Professor Robbins, while he indicated the beginnings of a new period in economic thought, should have suggested that these new developments were not always likely to be of a nature readily intelligible to the layman, and that he should have pleaded for the release of economists, like other scientists, from the obligation of putting everything they said in a form which anyone could understand without previous training.

VERTICAL WIRELESS.

Professor E. V. Appleton, F.R.S., the Wheatstone Professor of Applied Physics at King's College, has just come back from Basel, where he has been giving a course of six lectures at the University on some of his recent explorations into the atmosphere a hundred miles up by means of vertical wireless.

The University of Basel has for some years arranged for an exchange with visiting professors from this country, who go to give courses for their students in all the University subjects, while professors from Basel come to England. Professor Appleton has been the first to go from the University of London. He was paying a return visit on behalf of King's College, where, in November of 1928, lectures on radio were given by Professor W. Zickendraht, the Professor of Applied Physics at Basel and a distinguished radio expert.

Continued from preceding column.

Marlowe adorn what they touch, but their choice on this occasion is surprising, for though in it they have Shakespeare's poetry and Falstaffian buffoonery at its best, the lack of cohesion makes the play very difficult to perform.

Ridley Hall announce their jubilee in June, in the celebration of which the Bishop and Dean of Bristol, the Bishops of Winchester, Uganda, Christchurch (New Zealand), Western China and the Niger, and the Archdeacon of Coventry will take part. The evening of the first day will be devoted to a historical retrospect of the College and surely few modern theological foundations have a record of which they can be more proud!

LACK OF EMPIRE INSPIRATION.

A CAMBRIDGE REPROACH.

In our issue of January 19 our Cambridge University correspondent commented on the absence in Cambridge of influences favourable to the growth of Empire enthusiasm. Mr. George Pilcher, Secretary of the Royal Empire Society, Northumberland Avenue, W.C., now writes:—

"Your correspondent states that as a result of my visit to Cambridge last term a reduced subscription was authorised for undergraduates becoming members of the London headquarters of the Royal Empire Society. Your correspondent labours under a wrong impression. Already undergraduate members of any university or recognised university college enjoy whilst in *statu pupillari* all the privileges attached to the headquarters of the society at the reduced subscription of 10s. 6d. a year. Furthermore, all Rhodes scholars are admitted as Honorary Fellows of the society for the period of their university life in this country without any payment whatever. Honorary Fellowship gives them all the advantages enjoyed by subscribing Fellows.

"The change in the rules of the society authorised as the result of my visit to Cambridge was the institution of a new class of affiliated undergraduate members for the suggested payment of 2s. 6d. a year. Such subscription would confer on undergraduates no rights whatever in respect of London headquarters, but undergraduates joining the society would, we hope, constitute a strong working nucleus of younger men at Cambridge who hold strongly to the ideal of the British Empire as the world's greatest civilising force and as the original League of Nations, the continued existence of which is indispensable if the new International League of Nations is to prosper. Should the new form of membership prove popular, one or two good meetings a term could be arranged in Cambridge, at which first-class speakers on Empire problems could make their appeal to undergraduate Cambridge.

"I can confirm everything your correspondent says when I state that during my brief stay in Cambridge I was strongly impressed with the almost complete lack in that city of influences calculated to promote pride and faith in the British Empire.

"I was informed that there were no courses of study in Imperial history; no professors or readers in that subject of the type existing in Oxford and London; almost no mention of the Empire's history in the lecture syllabus, and no Rhodes scholars or Rhodes Trust influences to remind Cambridge men of great impulses towards international understanding which were set in motion before the war. Probationers for the I.C.S have their meetings, but in a quiet unofficial way in rooms. Indian students meet in a 'meiliss,' but for other students of the Overseas Empire no provision of any kind appears to be made, except the voluntary organisation of the Colonial Services Club. Would not a strong branch of the Royal Empire Society go far to fill this gap in the life of one of our older universities?"

GERMANY TO-DAY.

SIR HAROLD BOWDEN'S TRIBUTE.

CHANCES FOR BRITISH MANUFACTURERS.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

NOTTINGHAM Saturday.

Interesting details in regard to industrial conditions in Germany are given by Sir Harold Bowden chief proprietor of the Raleigh Cycle Works, who has just returned from a business tour in that country, where he spent a considerable time in the earlier part of his life

Germany to-day, Sir Harold declares, is a country which offers an education to the British manufacturer and a profitable market to those who are doing business there already among a people more than favourably disposed towards us. He describes the new race of Germans who have come into industrial activity since the chaos caused by the war as "very hard-working, thorough and serious." He found, however, that the Germans were for the greater part very poor, and they attributed their poverty to the heavy Reparation demands made upon them which hung like a millstone round their necks.

Most of the people in Berlin were only just managing to keep at subsistence level, and few if any of the places of entertainment were paying their way. Yet the people were working astonishingly hard to fulfil their contracts, and Sir Harold believed that if the Germans continue working as they do at present, like Trojans, Germany within the next ten years will be well on the way to prosperity.

MONARCHY NOT WANTED.

He had found that the Germans of to-day are quite content with their present form of government They were for the most part Nationalists, and he saw no evidence of a desire for the return of the Monarchy. Prospects of a rise of the Communists were equally remote.

Germany had, in fact, settled down to a long-desired period of industrial peace. Last year Germany produced 70,000 motor-cycles, and thus took precedence as the largest motor cycle manufacturing country in the world The whole of the cycles were for home sale. Germany having no export trade in motor-cycles.

ACTRESS'S DRESS.

PROTEST TO LEGATION OVER POLICE ACTION.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

BUDAPEST, Saturday.

Madame Irene Palasti, the Hungarian actress, who, after witnessing, as a member of the audience, the performance of the operetta "Venus of Biarritz," was arrested and detained several hours by the police because of the depth of her *decolleté*, has requested the intervention of the United States Legation to secure an apology and reparations She is an American subject by marriage, and her husband is Mr. Hans Bartsch, reported to be an American theatrical producer. Madame Palasti's home is in Berlin.

HARROW SCHOOL.

PRESERVING THE OLD PIE HOUSE.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

HARROW, Saturday.

The Headmaster of Harrow, Dr. Cyril Norwood, is still absent, but the news from the South of France, where he is staying with Mrs. Norwood, indicates that he has made an excellent recovery from his illness, and that he will be home in about a week.

Mr. Archer Vassall, Senior Master, who is carrying out the duties as Acting-Headmaster, came to Harrow thirty years ago, and has been Housemaster at Elmfield for seventeen years He is a member of the famous Vassall family of athletes, and was a well-known Rugby and Association player.

There has been a movement in Harrow for the purchase or preservation of the Old Pie House—said to be 600 years old—in the occupation of the local electric light company. It now transpires that the Governors of Harrow School are the freeholders, a fact unknown to the promoters. No further steps are therefore to be taken, as the promoters are content to leave the future of this interesting relic in the hands of the School.

AUCTIONS AND ESTATES

KENTISH PROPERTY RIPE FOR DEVELOPMENT.

The upset price of £10,500 is quoted for the residence of Valence with 31 acres, which is included in the auction of the Valence Estate, of 447 acres, at Westerham, Kent, to be held by Knight, Frank and Rutley, in conjunction with Simmons and Sons, at Westerham, at an early date.

The estate, which is only 21 miles from London by road, includes the modern residence of Valence and the Tudor-style residence of Dunsdale, twenty-one lodges and cottages and model farm buildings. The property is ripe for immediate development.

The remaining portions of the Abington Hall Estate, Cambridgeshire, are to be offered by auction by Knight, Frank and Rutley, at an early date. The property extends to some 63 acres, and includes 41 cottages in the picturesque villages of Great and Little Abington, the village school and institute, three small holdings, and accommodation land.

Deacon and Allen have received instructions to submit for sale by auction early in March the bijou freehold residences, 25, Montpelier Place, S.W.7, and Nos. 6, 8, 10, and 12, Edge Street, W.8.

Newbon and Shephard will offer by auction at the London Auction Mart on Thursday a number of freehold and leasehold houses in Upper Clapton, Islington Stratford, Kentish Town, and Finsbury. They will also offer at the same time well-secured freehold ground rents, and a freehold corner property at Deptford, with possession.

At Newark-upon-Trent, Knight, Frank and Rutley offered by auction the Kirklington and Hockerton Estate, Nottinghamshire, of 5,280 acres, including the villages of Kirklington and Hockerton. Forty lots were disposed of, the total sales amounting to about £25,000. In conjunction with Ralph Pay and Taylor, the same firm has disposed of Garrett House, St. James's, an unimpaired example of early Georgian architecture.

Messrs. Nicholas have disposed of Mount Tavy, Tavistock, a fine old house standing in a beautifully timbered park of nearly 50 acres, with one and a-half miles of trout fishing in the Tavy. They have also sold Rettenden Grange, Wickford, Essex, a dairy farm of 250 acres near Woodham Ferrers.

CANADIAN OFFICIALS SENTENCED

OTTAWA, Saturday.

Mr. George W Hyndham, former Assistant Deputy-Minister of Finance, was to-day sentenced to seven years in a penitentiary for defalcations aggregating approximately 10,000 dollars [£2,000], extending over a period of years. The Judge, in announcing the sentence, said he would recommend a reduction of the sentence by two years if restitution were made.—*Reuter.*

A NEW MAID OR MANSERVANT?—The help you require may be found in the Situations Bureau columns of the SUNDAY TIMES or obtainable by advertising for it. The rate is 1s. a line See page 27.

POOR CHILDREN'S HANDICAP.

ABSENCE OF CULTURE A REAL BARRIER.

LOW DEGREES IN U.S.

"So far as education is concerned England has nothing to learn from America," declared Mr. Ernest Young, the B.B.C. lecturer, at a meeting yesterday at Westminster Guildhall of the Middlesex County Head Teachers' Association.

"I think the standard of education in America is deplorably low," Mr. Young said. 'Any elementary pupil in Middlesex could get a degree in an American University in three months, and there is hardly a B.A. in America who could pass the matriculation.

"The greatest class distinction and the strongest barrier to the child born in the gutter mounting to Buckingham Palace, is not his birth, and not the poverty of his parents, but his dirty fingernails, and his illiterate and ungrammatical speech.

"If I were the Minister of Labour I would concentrate for the next five years in trying to bring about Bernard Shaw's ideal education. Mr. Shaw has said that the only three things a child needed to learn were: How to get off a moving bus backwards; how to find your way about in Bradshaw; and how to behave like a Duchess when you went to Brighton that everybody would think you were a Duchess."

VALUE OF ACCENT.

Mr. Young added that there were three things which made for material success in life—mind, morals, and manners. "I think," he went on, "that at the beginning of a boy's career his manners are more important than either his mind or his morals. A boy's accent is a very important factor in his life. Why does the railway porter at Baker Street shout 'Huxbridge train, first stop 'Arrow'? He realises the value of the aspirate, but he misplaces it."

Mr. Young declared that there was a tendency in this country to depend on other people to do things for us.

"I wonder at the moment how many people there are in this country who would rather take a dole of 15s. and lie about than take a job at 20s. and work. And still more I wonder how many people would take a wage of 15s. and work or take 20s. and lie about. That is the real test, of course."

Miss E. Keeler, headmistress of the girls' trade school, South Tottenham, was inaugurated president of the association.

YESTERDAY'S MUSIC.

SOME GEMS FROM THE OPERAS.

It must have been an interesting change for the singers of the Royal Choral Society to find themselves voicing the swinging tunes from Gounod's "Faust" and Verdi's "Aïda" at the Albert Hall. Dr. Malcolm Sargent, who conducted the afternoon's programme of operatic excerpts, had evidently decided, not altogether without justification, that it was no use painting with a fine brush on a background so vast and tremulous when the medium is the power of thousand-fold voices.

In the Kermesse" scene, and two more, from 'Faust," we had the tunes delivered in thumping rhythm, with every shadow of drum and cymbals, every high-light of brasses, triangle and piccolo, accentuated to the utmost; but little subtlety. And the solo voices remained, not seldom, inaudible in the general orchestral hurly-burly.

That wonderful Finale of Act II. of "Aïda" contains some of the most delicate ballet music eve written; but few would have suspected the fact. The magnificent choruses were, too, supported heavily by the organ. Altogether, then, though it is all to the good for the society to gain experience in a musical form more fluid and elastic than oratorio, the process of magnification was not, in this instance, very happily carried out.

The singers were Miss Noël Eadie and Mr. Tudor Davies and Mr. Topliss Green, who, in the second part of the programme had further opportunities, in solo numbers, between scenes of "Tannhäuser" and Borodin's "Prince Igor."

MOISEIWITSCH.

At Wigmore Hall, Moiseiwitsch gave his second piano recital—Liszt and Brahms. He seemed to oe at the top of his brilliantly clever form, and the Liszt Sonata in B minor supplied him with a maximum of opportunities, of which he made the very most. The Brahms Rhapsodie in E flat, two of the Intermezzi, and two sets of Variations—one on the Theme of Handel, Op. 24; the other, the Paganini set, Op. 35—were set forth with clarity. But Brahms's music assumed a brittle quality, being reduced, as it were, to infinitesimal thickness.

CHILDREN'S ORCHESTRAL CONCERT.

At Central Hall Westminster, in the morning, every seat was occupied when Dr. Sargent began his exposition of the nature of a Chorale Prelude. It was a happy idea to play the Sinfonia in this form, taken bodily from a Bach Cantata, first as a fugue, fine and simple, and then with the corale melody superimposed. The band was not quite as precise and spirited as usual, and Mozart's "Jupiter" Symphony—again concisely expounded—did not receive a burnished performance.

Artur Schnabel contributed a highly pianistic account as soloist of Weber's Concertstück in F minor, and was vociferously recalled, again and again. H. F.

A HUNDRED YEARS AGO.

Sunday Times

No. 380.] LONDON, SUNDAY, JAN. 31, 1830. [Price 7d.

The Court of Aldermen has decided that licensed victuallers are not liable to serve the office of parish constables.

The new building of the Law Institution is to be in Chancery Lane. The site is now cleared. Its front will consist of a plain, but handsome, Ionic portico. The total expense is estimated at £25,000.

Mansard, the French comedian, has been condemned by the Tribune of Montauban to a fortnight's imprisonment and 100 francs fine, for having adopted the costume of Napoleon on the stage, and for having imitated the carriage of the usurper.

The Judges presiding at the Old Bailey have experienced so much delay and inconvenience from the negligence of constables, that they have determined to withhold the expenses paid for prosecution to all officers who shall in future be absent when the trials are called on.

Crime has very considerably decreased in the city and county of Dublin The number of people sentenced to transportation, and against whom death was recorded, in 1828, amounted to 209; and in 1829 but 145. In 1828 the number convicted of larceny was 1,800, last year 1,200, showing a decrease of one-third

The Society for the Relief of the Houseless have asylums open in Wapping, in Grub Street, and St. Martin's Lane, and there are not less than 600 or 700 poor creatures sheltered every night from the inclemency of the weather They have night and morning a ration of bread; and on the Lord's Day an extra ration of bread and cheese, with the use of Bibles.

THE TAVISTOCK DIVISION.

Mrs. Walter Runciman having decided not to contest the Tavistock Division of Devonshire again Mr John Day, who is under 30 years of age, was yesterday unanimously adopted at Tavistock as the prospective Liberal candidate for the division. Mr. Day, who is the elder son of Mr. and Mrs. Herbert Day, of Norwich, contested the Thornby Division of Gloucester as a Liberal at the last election, but was defeated by 300 votes.

HOTELS
Continued from Page One.

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DRAMATIC WIN BY SCOTLAND

LAST MINUTE SCORE—WADDELL'S OPPORTUNISM.

DROPPED GOAL TURNS APPARENT DEFEAT INTO VICTORY.

By D. R. GENT.

SCOTLAND 12 pts., WALES 9.

MURRAYFIELD, Saturday.

By scoring a dropped goal within a few seconds of the final whistle, Scotland beat Wales here this afternoon by a goal, a dropped goal and a try, to a goal and a dropped goal. Seeing that the winners crossed their opponents' line twice to once, it rather looks like a deserved win; but as the game went, I think Scotland were decidedly lucky to succeed. In the first place, they were on the defensive for almost three-quarters of the game, and in addition to that, there was more than a shade of doubt about the complete legality of the first try, good one though it was, after the movement had once been allowed to start.

Still, the scoring power and resource of the Scottish backs were always likely to enable the home side to snatch a win, and with the visitors lacking those qualities, one felt right to the very end that something might turn up at the last minute—as it did—to rob Wales of a victory.

Scotland's Strength.

As I have just hinted, it was the Scottish backs who were mainly responsible for the victory. They were playing behind a pack that was beaten for most of the game in close scrummaging, so they had to forage for chances. These were difficult to find; but when they did come along the backs made on the whole very good use of them. Once again it was G. P. S. Macpherson who was the brains of the attack. The conditions were not ideal for Macpherson's game, for he prefers a firmer surface than he had to-day, and naturally much more of the ball from the scrum; but every time he did get the ball he showed his class. A beautifully placed kick ahead, a clever side-step, a strong run ahead, to leave his wing man clear—all these he gave us, and though he was not the Macpherson I have often seen, yet I think that without him the Scottish backs would not have been half as good as they were.

Look at that gorgeous try that Scotland scored right on half-time. It never looked like a try when it started near the Scottish way line. After some close play in midfield, Wales were penalised for a scrum infringement. Waters took a shot at goal, but the ball went wide and Bassett put in another fine kick to touch.

Then Wales put in a very strong attack, starting from good line-out work. A clever cross-kick all but led to a score, but Ian Smith was just able to beat a couple of Welshmen in a race for the ball, or there must certainly have been a try for Wales. The visitors kept up this pressure, chiefly by strong forward play, and the Scottish defence was sorely tried. But by judicious kicking it prevailed. Powell was playing cleverly at scrum-half, he and Williams working together very neatly.

Scotland tried to get out of their own "25," but Graham Jones sent them back almost against the corner-flag. Here Scotland were again very hard pressed till Warren, with a plucky pick-up at the feet of the Welsh forwards and a capital kick, got play to a more comfortable position for his side. Once more another free-kick to Scotland and another good kick by Warren helped them.

Wales were trying hard to force a score, but the Scottish backs were very watchful, and it was difficult to make headway by conventional back movements. At last, after twenty minutes, there came a score—and rather unexpectedly—to Scotland. The ball came quickly out of a scrummage, never having been properly in, I thought, and Nelson got it away to Hart. By his own dash and aided by poor Welsh tackling, he made a lot of ground.

Thrust and Counter-thrust.

He then sent the ball wide to Simmers, on the left wing, who scored far out. Waters kicked a beautiful goal. Almost at once Wales equalised. There was some rather clever passing, and when covered by the defence, Turnbull kicked ahead. The ball bounced rather badly for Warren, and Graham Jones was able to dash in and take it on the bounce before Warren could reach it and score between the posts for Ivor Jones to kick a goal.

It was good to see Wales draw level, for they certainly did not deserve to be behind. Now we had some really desperate play, each side trying to get the lead again. Powell broke away from a scrummage with a delightful dribble, and after some open play by the forwards, Ivor Jones passed to Graham Jones near the posts. The latter steadied himself, and dropped a neat goal after half-an-hour's play.

Back came Scotland, and Macpherson was held up not more than five yards from the Welsh line, with Smith outside him. But Macpherson was tackled, ball and all, so Smith was left "in the air."

Right on half-time the whole of the Scottish backs handled magnificently, Macpherson especially, and Simmers scored a really glorious try, as good a one as I have seen for years. Waters missed the kick, so that Wales led at half-time by a single point.

This great and successful attack was a fitting climax to a well fought out first half. Macpherson in the course of it was tackled by Graham-Jones, but ducked and slipped his opponent's grasp, and then gave an inside pass to Waddell, from which point it was all plain sailing.

A Bright Restart.

The most notable features in the early part of the second half were concerned with Boon once following a very strong forward rush. He got across, and after picking the ball up from the feet of his opponents, put it into touch well down the field. Then almost immediately afterwards, when Scotland tried a back movement, and Smith was beginning to look dangerous, Boon caught him by the arm just as he was getting away, and was able to fling him into touch.

Wales came near to scoring after Hart had been tackled in possession, holding on to the ball much too long. But after five minutes or so of steady pressure, the Welshmen were driven back, and Warren made the position more secure still with a fine kick to touch. Soon after this it was that Hart got injured, and he was put on the wing, a forward coming out to help him. After Powell had put in a beautiful kick to touch right, against his opponents' corner flag, Simmers made a great clearance.

There were five minutes to go, and the question was, would the Scottish backs get just one more chance? They did. The dash forward I have alluded to headed a very fine rush indeed. It was not stopped till it was within ten yards of the Welsh line. Waddell stood very deep. The ball came out his side, Nelson sent him a perfect pass, and with a glance at the posts a neat side-step, and a careful shot, Waddell had snatched the game out of the fire for his side. Teams:—

SCOTLAND.—R. C. Warren (Glasgow Academicals), full-back; Ian S. Smith (London Scottish), G. P. S. Macpherson (Edinburgh Academicals), T. M. Hart (Glasgow University), and W. Simmers (Glasgow Academicals), three-quarters; H. Waddell (Glasgow Academicals) and J. B. Nelson (Glasgow Academicals), half-backs; H. F. Macintosh (Glasgow University), W. B. Welsh (Hawick), J. Beattie (Hawick), R. Foster (Hawick), R. T. Smith (Kelso), W. C. Agnew (Stewart's F.P.), R. Rowend (Glasgow High School), and F. H. Waters (Cambridge University), forwards.

WALES.—J. Bassett (Penarth), full-back; Gwyn Davies (Cardiff), B. R. Turnbull (Cardiff), Graham Jones (Cardiff), and R. Boon (Cardiff), three-quarters; F. Williams (Cardiff) and W. C. Powell (London Welsh), half-backs; T. Arthur (Neath), H. C. Day (Newport), A. Skym (Cardiff), E. Jenkins (Aberavon), A. Lemon (Neath), H. Peacock (Newport), D. Thomas (Swansea), and I. Jones (Llanelly), forwards.

Referee: Mr. J. R. Wheeler (Ireland).

INTERNATIONAL TABLE.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	F.	A.
France	2	2	0	0	12	3
England	1	1	0	0	11	3
Scotland	2	1	0	1	15	16
Ireland	1	0	0	1	0	5
Wales	2	0	0	2	12	23

"25." As soon as Macpherson had done his share in the movement, however, all that was necessary was for Simmers to go hard for the corner and touch down. This try will be remembered for a very long time, and it rather reminded me of that spectacular try that H. P. Jacob got for England at Swansea some years ago.

I liked the new man, T. M. Hart. He backed his skipper up admirably, and should he develop, as seems likely, he should be a great acquisition to Scottish International football. Simmers was the same heady resourceful player he always is, and when Hart was hurt towards the end of the second half Simmers found it easy to play as well in the centre as he had done on the wing, to which position Hart was sent. Ian Smith was not the great man of old. It was not all his own fault, for he had few clear chances, and R. Boon, who marked him, did so as though that was most obviously his mission. For all that, however, Smith was not so difficult to hold as he used to be.

Waddell's Master-Stroke.

At full-back R. C. Warren was satisfactory on the whole, and at times good. The halves, H. Waddell and J. B. Nelson, were not their former very good selves. Waddell still passes beautifully and is resourceful, as he showed in winning the match with a dropped goal, but he has not the dash he used to have, and does not make the same openings for his centres. Thankless though his task was, Nelson was just moderately good.

The only respect in which the Scottish pack held its own was in those traditional forward rushes. Then, with the thousands of supporters present yelling at the tops of their voices, "Feet, feet!" and showing what a tremendous asset it is to play at home, they were mighty dangerous, and it was only the plucky Welsh backs and some of the forwards that prevented these rushes from developing into scores. I should like to name one Scottish forward, tall, dark, and fast, who played magnificently, but, again, the side was not numbered, and I have no idea who he was. When will all the countries do what the public has every right to demand, viz., carry some indication of who the players are? And why did Wales to-day follow the silly practice of their opponents and not number their players?

Lively Welsh Forwards.

The strength of Wales lay in the pack. The forwards played splendidly, they scrummaged hard, they got possession, and they handled very creditably, all very differently from the way they had done those things against England. They just lacked that skill in the open and general finish that made the difference between scores and no scores. These forwards must have been very depressed when they saw Waddell drop his goal, for they saw then that, for all their magnificent work, victory had gone to their opponents.

The Welsh backs defended well, but there was something sadly lacking in their attack, as at Cardiff. This time, however, they had the ball, which makes it more reprehensible still.

Powell's Display.

W. C. Powell was a great improvement at scrum half, and was plucky to play on after his injury, a quarter of an hour or so from the end. He is a splendid footballer, for all his idiosyncrasies. His partner, F. Williams, once again tackled well, and kicked nicely now and then, but I must say that I think he is nothing like so good as that other Welshman, H. M. Bowcutt, in setting his backs on the move smoothly.

Of the three-quarters, Graham Jones had a capital first match, and not only because he scored all the points for his country. He defended well and stuck to his post well all the afternoon. I should have liked to see Gwyn Davies have more of the ball on the right win. He is well set up, runs with a beautiful action, and appears to have a lot of football sense. B. R. Turnbull was steady, better at defence than attack.

Further back was J. Bassett, the safest full-back in the game at present. He is one of those high-class players who do most effective work for his side without getting anything like the applause his good work deserves. His sense of "positioning" makes his game look easy, while his kicking is sure and coolly done.

It was a good game to watch, with any amount of movement, and with victory for either side in the balance all the afternoon.

The weather had not been at all kind, rain had fallen during most of the morning and this had made the ground very soft. But it had not damped the ardour of the thousands of Welshmen who had made the long and tedious journey to Edinburgh. In Princes Street during the morning, and during the long wait before the match, they seemed more cheery than ever, and this despite the fact that their side had let them down badly against England. The teams played as originally chosen, though there was a little doubt about one of the Welsh forwards till the last minute.

Hart kicked off for Scotland, who had a strong wind behind them. Bassett fielded the ball neatly, and put it into touch at the half-

THE COUNTY TITLE

LANCASHIRE'S BRILLIANT RECOVERY.

TRIES GALORE IN THE SECOND STAGE.

LANCASHIRE 30 pts., EAST MIDLANDS 10.

The East Midlands XV. gave a sparkling display in the first half of the County Championship semi-final against Lancashire at Manchester.

Meikle started the game for Lancashire, and the opening play was confined to mid-field, but following some strong forward work Lancashire were kept on the defensive for some time. However, clever work by Butler and Calder, on the respective Lancashire wings, put them in a favourable position. Faulty passing between the home three-quarters enabled Brumwell to race half the length of the field to go over for a try, which Alston converted. The Midland backs were passing in wonderful fashion, and following a break-away by Reed, Alston went over for Harris to convert. Following a penalty goal by Ogden, Lancashire became more dangerous, and further reduced the lead with a try by Scott, which Ogden improved, to make Lancashire one point in arrears at the interval.

After the resumption Lancashire showed surprising improvement in their play, and the Midlanders were continually on the defence. Lancashire took the lead with an unconverted try by Weld, which was added to by a dropped goal by Wilson and tries by Foulds, Calder, and Scott, all of which Ogden converted.

Thus Lancashire have again entered the final. While the fact that Ogden, one of Lancashire's centres, was in great goal-kicking form, scoring eleven points for his side, and that Wilson also dropped a goal for Lancashire has to be taken into consideration, there can be no doubt but that the better fifteen was successful.

PENALTIES DECIDE.

BOUGHTON'S VALUE TO GLOUCESTERSHIRE.

MIDDLESEX 6 pts., GLOUCESTERSHIRE 12.

Rain fell at Twickenham when Middlesex met Gloucestershire in the semi-final of the Rugby County Championship before 5,000 people. Each side made one change. C. G. Moore, Rosslyn Park, came in as centre for Middlesex in the place of H. C. Laird, and in the Gloucestershire pack N. Harris, Cheltenham, played instead of L. E. Saxby, Gloucester, who was unable to make the journey.

The heavy condition of the ground and the greasy ball caused play to be confined largely to the forwards. Gloucestershire pressed for most of the first half, mainly as the result of the splendid work of their forwards in the loose rushes. Boughton frequently aroused enthusiasm in the crowd by his magnificent long kicking to the touch. Carris made one good attempt with a fine run, but Middlesex generally were kept busy defending. Spong broke through cleverly, but was brought down. Carris scored for Middlesex just before the interval, the kick at goal failing.

The narrow lead held by Middlesex at half-time was all against the run of the play, but they did much better after the interval. Ten minutes from the restart Middlesex were awarded a penalty, Carris kicking just wide.

Gloucestershire deserved to draw level when Boughton kicked a penalty goal. Reeve put in the finest run of the game on the wing to score an unconverted try, giving Middlesex the lead. Boughton kicked another penalty goal for Gloucestershire, and McCanlis scored an unconverted try. Boughton finally kicked yet a further penalty goal for Gloucestershire.

Boughton played a truly great game at full-back. The greasy ball did not appear to trouble him in the least, and he always gathered cleanly, but the finest feature of his work was his wonderful kicking. He found touch with long kicks with astonishing accuracy and tackled with fine certainty. Burland was plainly affected by a knock on the ankle received early in the game, but his sound and effective tackling of Spong had much to do with the comparative ineffectiveness of the Old Millhillian stand-off-half in attack. Little was seen of the wing three-quarters, though on one or two occasions James swerved his way cleverly past the opposition. One of the surprises of the game came from the good work of Bendall and Carter at half-back, for the Gloucester pair yielded nothing to Spong and Key.

Middlesex were frankly disappointing. It is true that they rallied for a while in the second half, but they did not display cohesion either in the pack or behind the scrum, and can have no reason to complain of the result. Bradford was one of the few successes. The spectacular kicking of Boughton naturally attracted the more attention, but Bradford was sound in all he did, and Middlesex would have been beaten by a far greater margin but for his sterling work.

Reeve put in one dazzling run, side-stepping a number of opponents in a manner that suggested Middlesex would have been wise had they paid more attention to the Harlequin winger, but both he and Carris found few chances to advance. Hume and Moore, the centres, occasionally showed up well in defence, but found the tackling too much for them when they tried to attack. Spong nearly always found his master in Burland, and some of the failure of the Middlesex three-quarters was undoubtedly due to the fact that Spong was largely subdued.

EASY WIN FOR WELSH.

LONDON WELSH 21 pts., ST. MARY'S HOSPITAL 6.

Another success came the way of the London Welsh when they proved far too strong a combination for plucky St. Mary's Hospital in a game played at Herne Hill before a small attendance. The Hospital had all the worst of the early play, which saw a try for the Welsh by R. L. Jones. The Hospital improved in the loose rushes, Lloyd Owen getting over for them, but R. L. Jones replied for the Welsh, Rookes converting.

In the second half the Welsh were much the superior side. Tries were scored by A. H. Jones, R. L. Jones, and J. R. Evans, the latter and Brookes each converting one. The Hospital lost Anning, who was hurt, but towards the end Hinchliffe obtained a penalty goal for them.

OLD LEYSIANS WIN WELL.

OLD LEYSIANS 18 pts., OLD HAILEYBURIANS 9.

At Wandsworth yesterday the Leysians won by three goals and one try to three tries. Rain made the ball difficult to handle, but both sides took their passes well in the first half. Soon after the start Philp scored near the posts and Kilner kicked a goal. After a clearance by Page, Philp ran strongly, kicked ahead, and Taylor scored. Birch next beat two men to score near in and Macpherson converted. Kilner next got over and converted. Just before half-time the Haileyburians forwards rushed the ball the length of the field and Tangye scored in the corner. In the second half the Haileyburians did best, and Hallay and Davies added unconverted tries.

N.P. BANK DRAW.

BRIGHTON 13 pts., N.P. BANK 13.

N.P. Bank drew with Brighton on the latter's ground, scoring two goals and a penalty to two goals and a try. Early in the game an infringement by Brighton resulted in Stannar's kicking a fine goal from near the half-way line. The Bank took some time to settle down. Brighton repeatedly made attacks, as they were getting position in the tight scrums. Tries were scored for them by Bilson, Robinson, and Harrison, two of which were converted.

In the second half, however, the Bank produced some fine football, and rush after rush was only held up on the line by the splendid defence of Brighton. Taylor and Shaw each scored tries from rushes, and towards the end Brighton recovered and carried play to the Bank line, only to be repulsed by a strong forward rush.

H.A.C. OUTPLAYED.

ST. THOMAS' HOSPITAL 20 pts., H.A.C. 6.

The hospital beat H.A.C. at Finsbury by 20 points to 6. The handling of the Hospital backs was very good, but the H.A.C. three-quarters spoilt several chances by bad handling, and their forwards were rather lifeless. The score at half-time was 6 all, but in the second half the Hospital showed their superiority and scored four more tries, Gilbert converting one. Puldercraft (3), Maisey (2), and Bond scored the tries for the Hospital, and Talbot and Shepherd got over for the H.A.C. Smith played a good game at full-back for the H.A.C., and the Hospital outsides were prominent throughout.

In connection with the Rugby International Ireland v. England at Dublin on Saturday, a restaurant excursion will leave Euston at 8.20 p.m., Friday, returning at 8.10 p.m., due back in London at 6.42 a.m., Sunday. The third-class return fare is 22s. 6d., or saloon on steamer 32s. 6d. Supper on the outward journey and breakfast on the return will be served at popular prices.

OXFORD WIN POOR GAME.

RICHMOND OUT OF FORM.

LEICESTER BEAT LONDON SCOTTISH.

RICHMOND 3 pts., OXFORD UNIVERSITY 9.

Having lost to the London Scottish on the Richmond Athletic ground the previous Saturday, the Dark Blues met Richmond on the same ground yesterday, when they won a poor, scrambling game by a penalty goal and two tries against a try.

Only four of the men who had played against the Scottish were in the team against Richmond, and there were only five Blues on the side, and only one—T. W. King—behind the pack. Owing to the Army's try out at Blackheath, Richmond, a consistently disappointing side were far below their full strength, but as the game went they more than held their own against the Dark Blues. They had the ball more often than their rivals from the scrimmaging, but though Bunney and Godfray, whose father incidentally captained Richmond in the old days, worked hard, no one behind them could give or take their passes, with the consequence that they were never able to deliver any combined attacks, and their chances went begging. The Oxford outsides were no more convincing, but in justice to the players it should be stated that the conditions were all against the game. Heavy rain, a sodden ground, and a piercingly cold wind offered some excuse for the general poverty of the play. The Oxford forwards, with Hofmeyr back to lead them, had brief periods when they did well, but generally they were not together, and there was not much life about them in their rushes. Of their backs, King, on one wing, and Mackay, on the other, showed the best form, and Crabbie, deputising for J. A. Adamson at full-back, was sound.

The first half was singularly devoid of appealing incidents. The ball was given plenty of air, it is true, but there was no skill on either side to press home the attacks until W. O. B. Lindsay got through with a try for Oxford, after Mackay's good work had cleared the way. Hofmeyr failed with the kick. After the change of ends Richmond did most of the attacking, but their only success was a try by Turquand-Young, after Henley had kicked a penalty goal against them, and later some passing and strong running by King and Reid gave the latter player another unconverted try for Oxford.

RICHMOND.—J. P. Whitham; G. M. Burton, C. P. M. Green, H. D. Bradshaw and J. Bickerton; R. V. Godfrey and F. M. T. Bunney; A. D. Allen, P. S. Legg, C. R. Hopwood, H. M. A. Martin, D. Turquand-Young, E. V. Howse, G. F. C. Prues and E. Gibson.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY.—J. P. Crabbie (Sedburgh and University); T. W. King (Uppingham and Trinity), J. L. Reid (Epsom and Brasenose), W. O'B. Lindsay (Harrow and Balliol) and R. V. Mackay (Watson's and Balliol); D. M. Mischler (St. Paul's and Magdalen) and E. W. Lovegrove (Cheltenham and New College); W. H. Druitt (Edinburgh Academicals and Oriel), R. K. Lindsay (Clifton and Brasenose), W. E. Henley (Otago University and New College), T. E. Tanner (Clifton and Trinity), H. M. Kelly (Sedburgh and Exeter), D. S. Swayne (Bromsgrove and Worcester), A. G. Cridlan (Uppingham and Worcester), S. J. Hofmeyr (Cape Town University and University).

CAMBRIDGE TESTED.

INTERESTING GAME WITH BRISTOL.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY 6 pts., BRISTOL 0.

Cambridge University, playing with the breeze, had the best of the opening play against Bristol, and after eighteen minutes Bailey crossed. After wards Bristol became aggressive, and from a good position Collins missed a dropped goal. Bristol nearly scored a try, but Cambridge held them in check. The first half was even.

After the interval both sides were frequently passing, but neither could break through, although both lines were in danger. The game fluctuated considerably, but after thirty minutes Brook forced his way through for a try. Cambridge deserved their success, but both sides tackled keenly, and provided an interesting game.

The conditions were only moderate, as recent rains had left the turf very greasy. Although neither side was at full strength, Cambridge being without the services of five Blues, including J. G. Askew, the England full-back, who was taking no chances with his next international engagement as close as next Saturday, and R. W. Smeddle and H. E. Carris, the two wing three-quarters, it was a very interesting game, with an abundance of open play. Generally speaking, the tackling on both sides was too good to allow of much advantage being reaped. Cambridge were the more successful scrummagers and generally got the ball. In consequence the Light Blue back division were seen more frequently on the move; but the goal-line at both ends had quite a number of narrow escapes, and more than once it was due to over-anxiety that no score accrued.

The Cambridge score in the first half was the result of a system of quick transference, which rather got the Bristol left wing bunched up and weakened their defence. E. T. Collins, the Bristol half-back, was particularly prominent in the open, and was unlucky in twice narrowly missing dropped goals. The game was nearly over when a characteristic piece of handling off of several opponents enabled Peter Brook to give Cambridge their second try, which won them the match. It was a game which was contested in the very best spirit, and there were very few penalty kicks for infringements.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY.—N. E. Browning (Crypt Grammar School, Gloucester); G. H. Bailey (Spalding and St. John's), L. H. Collison (Mill Hill and St. John's), G. C. A. Adams (Radley and Pembroke), and F. M. Heywood (Haileybury and Pembroke); G. A. G. Cross (King's College School, Wimbledon, and Caius) and E. B. Pope (Uppingham and Clare); P. W. P. Brook (Whitgift and Emmanuel), D. M. Marr (Fettes and Caius), A. W. Walker (Oundle and Clare), N. A. York (Northampton and St. Catharine's), G. E. Valentine (Bishop's Stortford and St. Catharine's), A. R. Ramsay (Harrow and Trinity Hall), I. Morgan (Kingswood, Bristol, and Fitzwilliam House), and P. D. Macdonald (Marlborough and St. John's).

BRISTOL.—T. W. Brown; A. W. Lillicrap, W. Moncrieffe, M. McGougan, and H. Sherman; E. R. Tucker and E. T. Collins; W. H. Hale, F. J. Coventry, F. Tucker, F. Hollister, B. Parsons, W. C. Broome, and C. Smith.

A GAME OF CONTRASTS.

LEICESTER 10 pts., LONDON SCOTTISH 6.

Leicester entertained the London Scottish, and the game opened very tamely. Play was, in fact, very dull for the first twenty minutes. The London Scottish then attacked strongly, and Sample nearly dropped a goal. Leicester improved and put in a series of hot attacks on the Scottish line. Flewett and Babington just missed tries, but the Scottish tackled splendidly.

Taylor scored for the Scottish immediately on the restart, but Leicester went ahead when Norman scored a try and converted it after a splendid forward movement. Flewitt added another try for Leicester, and Norman converted. The Scottish rallied and Taylor scored another unconverted try. The second half was much brighter than the opening play, and both sides did good work.

Leicester are slowly getting out of the rut into which they have fallen in the last few weeks. They showed a decided improvement against the London Scottish, and fully deserved their win. The London Scottish were well represented, but they never seemed to get acclimatised to the muddy ground. Their forwards showed plenty of fire at times, though on the whole they were not better than Leicester, who often used short passing movements to advantage. Gadney and Babington were not an ideal half-back pair.

STREATHAM'S FINE DRIBBLING.

STREATHAM 6 pts., BANK OF ENGLAND 5.

Streatham won their game against Bank of England by 2 tries to a placed goal. Streatham opened the scoring, Knott crossing to complete an excellent three-quarter movement. A feature of the first half was the well-controlled dribbling of the Streatham pack. In the second half the Bank, with more determination and thrust, forced a touch down on three occasions, and eventually Nye got over for a try, which was converted. Streatham again attacked, and a fine dribble by Brookes enabled Pritchard to score.

LONDON HOSPITAL EASY WINNERS.

LONDON HOSPITAL 17 pts., OLD CRANLEIGHANS 0.

Old Cranleighans were decisively beaten by London Hospital by one goal and four tries to nil. The Old Cranleighan forwards seemed unable to adapt themselves to the conditions, and went down to more experienced scrummaging. After scrappy play by London Hospital, Stead scored twice by fine bursts of speed, but the second try should have been prevented. Afterwards the Old Cranleighans pressed, but were unable to pierce the opposing defence. R. J. G. Durrant made a courageous attempt to drop a goal. After the interval, although the Old Boys once or twice looked like scoring, the Hospital added three more tries through O'Sullivan (2) and Stevenson, one of which was converted by Reidy.

ARMY BEATEN BY "THE CLUB."

ST. BART'S IN FORM.

O.M.T. SCORE READILY.

BLACKHEATH 6 pts., ARMY 0.

The Army started well in their match at Blackheath. They pressed hard for a time, but the Blackheath forwards settled down to play a fine game. First Bishop and then Walker scored tries, but Komp failed with both kicks. The Army backs showed fine form, but did not get many chances. Twice Wainwright went close for the Army.

Blackheath were superior forward in the second half and the home side did most of the attacking. Hunt and Cole showed splendid defence for the Army, and several times averted a score. The muddy ball prevented accurate handling, and both sides relied on footwork. Hamilton-Smythe got over for Blackheath, but knocked on when over the line. The Army made a poor show after half-time.

The Army side contained many fine individual players, but they were deficient in team work and finishing power, and lost to a team that was superior in both respects. The Blackheath forwards played a capital game throughout, and beat the opposing pack both in the right scrummages and in the loose, and the Blackheath victory was mainly due to their efforts.

Playing conditions were most unfavourable to open play, and good as J. R. Cole, A. R. Aslett, and A. L. Norris were for the Army, the handicap of the muddy ball proved too great for them to be really effective.

PLUCKY BART.'S.

ST. BART.'S HOSPITAL 14 pts., DEVONPORT SERVICES 3.

St. Bart.'s Hospital were at home to the Devonport Services. With a slippery ball the backs were handicapped, and play was largely forward. Here the Services excelled, and the Hospital line had several narrow escapes from rushes. Near the interval Prowse and Powell combined in a clever run from their own half, Powell crossing for C. R. Jenkins to convert.

Though without Jackson (injured), the Hospital were the better side, and unconverted tries were scored by Powell, Marshall, and Bielby. The first and third were the result of clever back-play near the end. Hargreaves burst through to score for Services wide out.

GOOD WIN FOR O.M.T.'s.

OLD MERCHANT TAYLORS 19 pts., OLD MILLHILLIANS 10.

There was a good attendance at Twickenham for the match in which Old Merchant Taylors entertained Old Millhillians. The weather was fine but the ground was very greasy. Old Millhillians scored in the first five minutes through a try by A. J. Maclennon, the goal being placed by Thorneloe. The Taylors had most of the game after this, and just before half-time Buncombe gained a try, the place-kick failing.

The Taylors took the lead early in the second half with tries by Bywater and W. R. Spragg. F. F. Spragg converting the first. With fifteen minutes to play, Lackie went in for Millhillians, and Thorneloe converted. Bywater and Turnbull added tries for the Taylors, and F. F. Spragg placed a goal with the first of these.

CATFORD BRIDGE WIN KEEN GAME.

CATFORD BRIDGE 8 pts., UPPER CLAPTON 5.

Upper Clapton visited Catford Bridge yesterday, and a most enjoyable game resulted in favour of Catford by a goal and a try to a goal. Winning the toss, Upper Clapton at once set up a strong attack, and within ten minutes Brennan scored, following a determined forward rush. Wey converted from a difficult angle. A good deal of midfield play followed, V. G. Van Schalkwiyk continually repelling rushes and making ground for Catford Bridge by means of well-directed punts. Following a scrum G. Roeber forced his way over the visitors' line, A. S. M. Hutchinson adding the major points from the touchline. At half-time each had scored 5 points. On the resumption the game was almost entirely confined to the forwards until a splendid passing movement by the Catford backs enabled G. Collins to score far out. This was not converted. Upper Clapton, ably led by S. C. Tucker, fought hard, but Catford Bridge were slightly superior in the loose, and no side arrived with no further score, Catford thus winning by 8 points to 5. For the winners Hutchinson and Schalkwiyk were prominent, while Wey and Roberts played well for Clapton.

WASPS' FREE SCORING.

WASPS 26 pts., STROUD 0.

Wasps beat Stroud at Sudbury by 1 converted goal and 7 tries to nil. The ground was very heavy and handling difficult, but some good running was seen. Stroud played a typical spoiling game. Tries were scored for Wasps by Meadows (5), Airey, Hopkins, and Morris. The goal was kicked by Garbutt.

RUGBY HANDICAPPED.

OLD ALLEYNIANS 11 pts., RUGBY 7.

Despite the wretched ground conditions at Dulwich quite a good game was witnessed between Old Alleynians and Rugby, the former winning by 1 placed goal 2 tries, to 1 dropped goal and 1 penalty goal. Rugby were the lighter side, and were without their captain, Rossiter, who, with Thomas, was playing for Northampton. They took some time to adapt themselves, and with their combination all awry, Old Alleynians were able to secure three tries in the early stages through Miller, Stark, and King, Stark converting one. When the visitors settled down, however, they gave their opponents a gruelling time, and more than held their own. Following a series of scrums near the home goal line, Davies, the full-back, dropped a goal, and later made the most of a penalty kick.

BILLIARDS.

LINDRUM MAKES A BREAK OF 2,419.

FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.

An argument between Smith and Lindrum, the two billiards giants, who are engaged in a fortnight's match at Manchester followed an unusual situation which arose during yesterday afternoon's session.

Lindrum had reached 47 with the balls in excellent position, when Smith rose and claimed a "foul" on the grounds that the Australian was playing the wrong ball. Examination proved this to be the case, and the marker, Sidney Smith, the young billiards professional, admitted that he must have given Lindrum the wrong ball when he "spotted" the three balls after they been "touching."

Lindrum protested against a "foul" being given, on the grounds that his was not the mistake, but the marker ruled in favour of Smith, who therefore commenced play.

Lindrum occupied the table for an hour at the opening of the evening session, and although not scoring at his usual speed, took his unfinished break of 1,164 to 2,419 his second best of this tour, before failing at a screw cannon. Smith replied with 194 before Lindrum had a run of 82 consecutive nursery cannons during an innings. Closing scores:—

LINDRUM	17,331
SMITH (in play)	8,039

McCONACHY v. NEWMAN.

The long-delayed appearance of C. McConachy, the New Zealand champion, in London aroused a good deal of interest. His opponent in a fortnight's match at Hyde Street, New Oxford Street, is T. Newman, and McConachy, after a rather indifferent beginning, succeeded, on the fourth day of the match, in recording his record break of 1,739. A brilliant performance by Newman on Friday, enabled him to resume play yesterday with arrears of only 757, but the margin was increased to 1,730 during the afternoon, when McConachy aggregated 1,404 to 531, and averaged 156 against 53. At his first visit McConachy compiled a break of 236, and after a little safety he marked up 89, and followed with an attractive break of 387. Newman meanwhile had subscribed 144 (full), 90, 116, and 131, but he then had a prolonged rest, while McConachy, mainly by perfect spot-end manipulation, placed a fine break of 649 to his credit. Interval scores:—

McCONACHY (in play)	11,226
NEWMAN	9,596

In the evening Newman was the more prominent, scoring 1,168 to 913, and averaging 194 against 152.

CLOSING SCORES.

McCONACHY (in play)	12,139
NEWMAN	10,764
DAVIS (in play)	12,665
FALKINER (rec. 3,000)	12,584.

FIVES.

St. Paul's School (J. G. Richards, G. C. Roosmale Cocq, G. G. Shneerson, R. E. Aseratta) beat Christ's College, Cambridge (J. R. Colville, G. L. O. Jessup, W. H. Luce, S. Bunnag) at Rugby Fives at West Kensington yesterday by 207 points to 156.

The Old Haileyburians defeated Haileybury College by 224 points to 217.

The Old Blues (K. W. Millage, S. Bloomfield, G. K. Cooper, A. H. Buck) beat Christ's Hospital (V. E. Letts, D. C. Fleming-Williams, A. J. Warner, R. W. Todd) at West Horsham, by 134 points to 132.

Old Sinjuns beat Old Paulines at Battersea by 120 points to 51, and Alleyn Old Boys beat U.C.S. Old Boys at Hampstead by

Hockey.

DRAWN GAME IN THE TRIAL MATCH.

HUGE CAMBRIDGE SCORE — OXFORD TEAM CHOSEN.

WOMEN'S TERRITORIAL GAME.

By "CIRCLE."

The hockey programme arranged for yesterday was the most important so far this season, for apart from the men's international trial between the Midlands and the West, at Evesham, and the first Women's Territorial Trial of the season between the South and the Midlands, at Merton Abbey, both Oxford and Cambridge Universities were in London opposing strong club sides before the inter-University match on the 15th inst.

Interest in the men's trial was enhanced by the fact that the MIDLANDS had already beaten the North and the WEST have defeated the South. Yesterday's result of a 3—3 draw, therefore, confirmed the previous good form of these Divisions.

In the first half the West attack showed the greater speed, but the Midlands defence was the more sure, Wainwright, in goal, making some good saves. The only goal of the half was scored for the West by Gregory, following a movement on the left wing. The West maintained a strong attack in the early part of the second half, but the Midlands rallied well and in ten minutes had secured the lead. King put them on terms, and Robinson netted their second goal. With their forwards better together and well supported by the half backs, the Midlands added a third goal through Shorting. Following some fruitless attacks, Gregory again scored for the West, and then Milford equalised. The hockey reached a high standard, the half-back play on both sides being extremely good. Of the twenty-five matches played between the Divisions the Midlands have won 17, the West 5, while 3 have been drawn. In 1928 the West won at Nottingham by 3—1.

CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY visited and defeated HAMPSTEAD on the Richmond Athletic Ground by 9—0. In the first half the Light Blues were well held by the former Cambridge University full-backs, Lampard-Vachell and Chapell, and only scored twice through Rocyn-Jones and Berry. In the second half, however, the greater stamina of Cambridge enabled the forwards to overrun a tiring defence, and further goals were added by Perfect (3), Berry (3), and Rocyn-Jones.

Oxford Get Seven.

OXFORD UNIVERSITY, who fielded the team that will oppose Cambridge in the inter-Varsity match, did extremely well to beat BECKENHAM, at Beckenham, by 7—2 after leading by 3—1 at half-time. The home team were strongly represented, but Oxford held an advantage at half-back, and in Garthwaite had the best full back on the field. Paul was outstanding in a smart forward line that was effectively together, with Dashwood a fine opportunist. Dashwood scored four goals, Paul two, and the Nawab of Pataudi one

The final Welsh Trial at Abergavenny resulted in a win for SOUTH WALES over NORTH WALES by 7—0. The winners were much the superior in attack and scored four times in the first half. As usual, a feature of the match was some brilliant goalkeeping, Craig excelling in this respect for the North. Roberts (3), Evans (2), E. Jones, and W. Edwards were the scorers.

Yet another heavy-scoring game was that in which OLD LOUGHTONIANS beat ILFORD at High Beech by 9—0. Shelley scored six goals and W. Trimby three, the half-time score being 3—0.

A goal by Heath from a melee midway through the second half enabled RICHMOND to beat ALDERSHOT COMMAND at the Old Deer Park, Richmond, by 1—0, while on the Athletic Ground MID-SURREY overcame a strong SOUTHGATE side by the unexpected margin of 7—0. Waddilove, Laurence, and Bateson scored in the first half, and Utting, Laurence, Bateson, and Waddilove in the second. Block, the old Cambridge Blue, played well at full-back for the winners.

TULSE HILL beat BROMLEY at Kent House by 7—2 after leading by 2—0 at half-time. The home side dominated the attacking, but the Bromley defence played well under heavy pressure. Pickering (4), Staples (2), and Dibbins scored for Tulse Hill, and Nation and Johnston for Bromley.

Scoring through Carpenter and Pemberton in the first half and Burlton (2) and Pemberton after the interval, DULWICH beat STAINES by 5—0, despite some fine full-back play by Scott-Freeman and Fear for the losers.

STAFF COLLEGE (CAMBERLEY) and ST. THOMAS'S HOSPITAL enjoyed a close game at Camberley, the Hospital winning by 5—4 after each side had scored three times in the first half. MacNab (2), Campion, and Redman scored for the College, and Harper (2), Boake (2), and MacMillan netted for the Hospital, who had a fine centre-half in Scott.

WEST HERTS beat HORNSEY by 3—2 after the latter side had twice drawn level. Hepburn (2) and Wood scored for the winners, and Lea and Turner for the losers.

Spencer Draw.

Edgeley scored for SPENCER in the first half against PURLEY, but Nelson equalised in the closing stages of a well-contested match.

Superior in attack in the second half, HENDON beat CIVIL SERVICE by 7-4. De Winter (5), Mortlock (2), Summers, and Watkin scored the goals for the winners.

Sanders (3), Muntz (3), C. Smith, and H. Smith hit goals for HOUNSLOW, who beat WESTCLIFF by 8—1. BANK OF ENGLAND and METROPOLITAN POLICE shared a goals after each side had scored once in the first half. Lawson and Taylor netted for the Bank, and Keogh hit both goals for the Police, who equalised in the last three minutes.

MAIDENHEAD, scoring through Wykes (2) and Weston, beat NATIONAL PHYSICAL LABORATORY by 3—1, and WESTMINSTER BANK, whose centre-forward, Wonnacott, has been selected to play for the South, beat LONDON HOSPITAL by 6—5.

At Aldershot the ROYAL ENGINEERS beat OLD KINGSTONIANS by 3—1 on a difficult ground and in heavy rain. Cooley, Lillie, and Armitage scored for the Sappers, and Kay for the Old Boys.

FOLKESTONE OPTIMISTS beat ST. EDMUND'S SCHOOL by 9—5, although the losers' goalkeeper played exceedingly well. Upton (3), Swindon (3), Castle (2), and Laundrey scored for the Optimists, and Box (4) and Symonds for the School.

OXFORD'S TEAM TO MEET CAMBRIDGE.

After the match with Beckenham, J. S. M. Paul, the Oxford University captain, announced that the side to meet Cambridge University, at Beckenham, on February 15 would be:—

J. S. Gwatkin (Rugby and Christ Church); G. S. Gee (Uppingham and Brasenose). P. F. Garthwaite (Wellington and Brasenose); J. M. Monkhouse (Rugby and Trinity). G. Theophilus (St. Lawrence and University). H. J. Linnell (St. Lawrence and Trinity); Nawab of Pataudi (Lahore and Ballioi). D. G. Oswald (St. Lawrence and Wadham). T. J. R. Dashwood (Wellington and Brasenose) J. S. M. Paul (Marlborough and St. John's) (captain), A. D. Walmsley (Rossall and Queens).

The side contains six new Blues. Garthwaite, Linnell, Nawab of Pataudi, and Walmsley received their colours after yesterday's match, Dashwood and Oswald having been honoured a few days earlier.

WOMEN'S MATCHES.

SOUTH BEAT MIDLANDS.

By MARJORIE POLLARD.

Women's hockey has arrived at what is regarded as the most momentous period of the season. The territorial matches began yesterday. These games, which always produce by far the best English hockey, are in the nature of trials—as the English Selection Committee watch them all, and at the end publish the English hockey team for the season. Yet they are not called trials, as the Selection Committee have very limited powers as to changing a player's place in a territorial team. The feeling between the territories is as it should be—healthily strong—and the territory which wins through is very proud indeed.

The English Selection Committee this year is Miss M. A. Gaskell, Miss Partridge, Mrs. Eyre, Mrs. Thomson Smith, and Miss Pollard.

Yesterday, then, at Merton Abbey, THE SOUTH played THE MIDLANDS. Last year The South won by 6 goals to 1. The game was played in a continuous downpour of rain, which made the well-prepared pitch into a quagmire, but it can be said that the game was not spoilt as a game by the vile weather conditions. The same high standard of hockey was not reached as if the pitch had been firm—but there was never a dull moment in the seventy minutes' game. The South won by 3 goals to 1—and fully deserved their victory. All their goals came early in the first half and were the result of bewildering movements on the part of the South forwards. The first came after a fast movement on the right—the ball was put sharply across the circle to Miss Allright, who was waiting ready and quite unmarked. The shot gave Miss Chambers, in goal, no chance. Shortly after this the right inner, Miss Summers, put in a shot, the ball rebounded, and Miss J. Ellis appeared from almost nowhere and finished the job. There was a period now in which the Midlands began to settle down and attack, but once more the South right wing went away—the ball was centred, and Miss Hodson scored. That was the end of the South scoring, but it was by no means the end of the thrills.

The Midlands' Goal.

The Midlands rearranged their forward line a little. Miss Newell came inside, and Mrs. Crompton went on the wing. This certainly helped matters, as Miss Newell was playing really well. The Midlands began to press, but they found the South defence firm. Mrs. Burners was playing magnificently, and was breaking up attack after attack. The Midlands were at fault, inasmuch as they completely starved the right wing—there was a period of a quarter of an hour when the ball did not go on to that side of the field.

The game developed into a series of attacks and counter-attacks; and then Mrs. Mears, the Midland centre-forward, got well away, but was fouled badly in the circle, and it was from the penalty corner that the Midlands scored. Miss Newell took the shot; the ball rebounded, and Miss Crompton shot into the net. So ended a good, fast, and most enjoyable game.

The outstanding players in the South were Mrs. Burners, who was complete master of the situation; Mrs. Collins, at left-back; and Miss Armfield, at centre-half. Of the forwards it is difficult to write—they were all good. Miss J. Ellis did very well on the right wing, but she does not know yet how to use all the space on her right side where she has taken the half-back in. Miss McArthur was fast, but stood off-side frequently, and Miss Hodson tried repeatedly to gather the ball when it was at her heels in a most strange manner; but as a line the forwards were definitely good and played a constructive, pleasing game.

WEMBLEY LADIES beat WEMBLEY OLD GRAMMARIANS by 10 goals to 2, in spite of the plucky display of Miss Biggs in goal. The Old Grammarians were one short, and Miss Sims and Miss Loveridge scored their goals. STAINES played OLD ODDS AND ENDS and won by 8 to 2. Misses Yoye and Curnick scored three goals each. Misses Owen and Dyer once each. LEWISHAM scored six times against FURNESS HOULDER, who could only reply with one. Miss W. Billingham played a splendid game for Lewisham, scoring four times, and Miss M. Davies shot their other two goals.

In a fast game CHELMSFORD beat their SOUTHEND visitors by 5 goals to 2. Miss Shanks, the County reserve centre-forward, played well for the home side, and scored two goals. Miss Barnes also scored two and Miss Southgate completed their total. Miss Markham scored twice for Southend, whose forwards were unable to overcome the fine defence of Miss Shead in the Chelmsford goal.

WINCHMORE HILL and CHELSEA P.T.C. played a match at Merton. The visitors were not at full strength, and they were beaten by 5 goals to 2. Miss Anderson and Miss McLean were the scorers of their goals. The game was fast. The defence on both sides played well.

MEN'S HOCKEY RESULTS.

CLUB MATCHES.

London Univ.	2	H.A.C.	1
Tulse Hill	6	Bromley	2
Old Loughtonians	9	Ilford	3
Polytechnic	3	Guildhall	2
West Middlesex	3	Egham	3
Purley	1	Spencer	1
Westminster Bank	6	London Hosp.	5
Barnes	7	University Coll.	1
Oxford Univ.	7	Beckenham	2
Hendon	7	Civil Service	4
Hendon III.	3	Civil Service III.	3
Lloyds Bank	6	Univ. Coll. Hospital	1
Birkbeck College	4	Broxbourne	3
Polytechnic A.	2	Old Monovians	2
Dulwich	5	Staines	0
Borough Poly. II.	5	Chiswick Polish	0
Tulse Hill III.	5	Bromley III.	1
Polytechnic IV.	13	L.M. and S.E.	1
Radlet	2	Barnet	3
Aquarius	0	Teddington H.	0
Folkestone Optimists	9	St. Edmunds School.	5
Centymca	1	Cowley	1
Mid-Surrey	7	Southgate	0
Richmond and Kingston Hill	1	Aldershot Command	0
West Herts	3	Hornsey	2
O. Framlinghamians	1	Brentwood	1
Bank of England	2	Metro. Police	1
Hounslow	8	Westcliff	1
Metrogas	7	Courthill	0
Epsom IV.	5	Bank of England IV.	2
Staff Coll. (Camber.)	4	St. Thomas Hospital	5
Reigate	4	Cheam	7
Nat. Physical Lab.	1	Maidenhead	3
R.E. (Aldershot)	3	Old Kingstonians	1
Merton	5	Croydon M.O.	1
Purley V.	6	Wallington III.	1
Cheam II.	5	Reigate II.	2
Cheam III.	5	Britannic House	1
Hornchurch	4	R.A.F., North Weald	1
Lon. Sch. of Econs.	2	Weybridge	1
Gordon Hall	5	Hornchurch II.	0
Chelmsford II.	10	Chelmsford G.S.	2
West Herts II.	4	Berkhamsted	3
Hampstead II.	12	Brondesbury II.	0
Ilford II.	6	Old Loughtonans II.	5
Hampstead III.	10	Brondesbury III.	0
East Grinstead	5	Guy's Hospital	1
Worthing	1	G. Western Rly.	0
Cheshire A	1	Yorkshire A	0
St. Edmund's Hall	9	Reading Univ.	3
Trinity	4	Pembroke	2
Old Southendians	7	City of London M.H.	2
Chelmsford	2	Luton	1
Felsted School	3	Camb. U. O. Felstds.	2
Woolwich Poly.	7	Callenders	0
Sir John Cass College	4	Sittingbourne	1
Hawks	3	Wimbledon II.	2
Peek Frean	1	Kearley and Tonge.	0
Hawks II.	8	Catford Wands. II.	0
Purley II.	2	Spencer II.	0
N.P. Bank II.	3	Old Kingstonians II.	1
N.P. Bank III.	5	O. Kingstonians III.	2
Purley V.	6	Wallington III.	1
Crouch End	3	Barclays Bank	2
Crouch End III.	3	Barclays Bk. III.	2
Barnet	3	Radlett	2
St. Bart's Hospital	1	R.A.F. Uxbridge	6

WELSH INTERNATIONAL TRIAL.

North Wales	0	South Wales	7

PUBLIC SCHOOLS RESULTS.

Chichester	5	Chichester School	1
Cranleigh School	2	Wadham Coll. (Ox.)	2
Gresham's Sch. (Holt)	8	Magdalene College (Cambs.)	2
Caterham School	7	East Grinstead II.	0

DIVISIONAL TRIAL.

Midland	3	West	3

WOMEN'S HOCKEY RESULTS.

CLUB MATCHES.

South	4	Midlands	1
North Northants	3	County School	0
Atalanta	6	Bedford P.T.C.	0
Chiswick	3	U.L.A.U.	1
I.C.I. London and South	8	I.C.I. North and Midlands	4
Crimson Ramblers	7	Scaleybourne	1
Hampshire	5	Wiltshire	3
Barnes	6	Highgate II.	3
Folkestone Optimists	2	Ash and District	1
Folkestone Opt. II.	2	Dover Girl Guides	3
Old Blues	4	Grosvenor	3
Old Blues II.	8	Grosvenor II.	0
Hounslow	8	Probel Institute	3
Sutton High School Old Girls	5	Cheam II.	4
Lancashire III.	5	Yorkshire III.	2
Wembley Old Grammarians	2	Wembley	10
Staines	8	Old Odds and Ends	2
Chelmsford	5	Southend	2
King Edward's	0	Ibis III. A	0
Lewisham	6	Furness Houlder	1
Chelsea P.T.C.	5	Winchmore Hill	2
Crostyx	5	London School of Medicine	2
Crostyx II.	2	London School of Medicine II.	8
Bromley County School O.G.	11	Ibis III.	4
Lancashire	7	Yorkshire	2
South	3	Midlands	1
Oxfordshire	6	Worcestershire	0
Catford Wanderers	6	Callenders Cable Wks	0
Lincolnshire	4	Leicestershire	1
Bedfordshire II.	4	Buckinghamshire	1

A. L. Fletcher, the new Business Houses champion, won the Belgrave Harriers' ten miles walking championship at Wimbledon in exciting fashion. T. W. Green, the holder, defended his title, but was beaten on the post. There were thirty-one entries.

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VARSITY GOLF.

OXFORD'S BRILLIANT PLAY

INTERNATIONAL PAIR BEATEN.

Seven men with a handicap preceded by the plus sign and five members who are rated at scratch made up the West Hill team which opposed Oxford University over the club's course at Brookwood yesterday, but, playing magnificent golf, the Oxonians won the foursomes by 4 games to 2. Although without Major C. O. Hezlet, the Irish Open Amateur Champion, who led them when West Hill beat Cambridge University last November, the club team was stronger than on that occasion, when the Cantabs won only one foursome. West Hill won the leading two games, but after that it was a case of "all Oxford."

J. B. Beck and C. C. Bristowe, two of three British Internationals assisting them—W. A. Murray was the third—led off for West Hill, and, though they beat R. H. Baugh and C. Sweeny by a hole, they had the upper hand only twice during the round, at the fifth and at the eighteenth, when winning the match. Both sides played brilliantly, and each had a round of 72. The Dark Blues struck a brilliant patch from the sixth to the thirteenth inclusive, and of the eight holes they had a three at five of them. They were two up after that stage, but West Hill won the fourteenth, where Oxford were out of bounds, and squared the match at the fifteenth, which they took in a fine three. Baugh played his only bad shot at the eighteenth, where he bunkered his side's second, and West Hill, getting a four, won the hole and match.

R. H. Jobson, who has played for England, partnered Murray against A. C. Marples and A. M. Tew, who lost by 3 and 2. Jobson was suffering acutely from an attack of sciatica, and walked round with the assistance of a stick. His golf, however, was excellent, and his side led most of the way. They turned one up, became two up at the eleventh, where Jobson's iron shot finished six yards from the pin, and Murray holed the putt. West Hill lost the twelfth, but Murray's tee shot to the fifteenth (over 200 yards) finished within a yard of the hole, and they became two up again before winning the sixteenth in a very good four.

J. P. Marston and S. Scheftel (Oxford) were one over fours for ten holes against J. A. Board and Major K. S. MacRae. Then six down, West Hill could not get the arrears all back, and were beaten by 5 and 4. J. S. F. Morrison and G. D. Hannay (West Hill) were two up at the ninth against J. R. Keen and H. N. Fogg, who, though winning the next five holes in a row, were taken to the eighteenth hole before gaining the victory.

West Hill Turn the Tables.

West Hill turned the tables in the afternoon, and won eight of the twelve singles, to be successful on the day with 10 points to 8, but most of the games were closely contested. Beck, Murray, and Bristowe again finished on the winning side, but Beck and Murray had to go to the last green to beat Baugh and Marples respectively, while Jobson lost at the eighteenth to Marston.

FOURSOMES.—J. B. Beck and O. C. Bristowe (1 up) beat R. H. Baugh (Wadham) and C. Sweeny (Wadham); W. A. Murray and R. H. Jobson (3 and 2) beat A. C. Marples (New College) and A. M. Tew (Magdalen); J. A. Board and Maj. K. S. MacRae lost to J. P. Marston (Trinity) and S. Scheftel (Christchurch) (5 and 4); T. A. Bourn and H. Le Fleming Shepherd lost to G. P. Jackson (Lincoln) and H. M. Bray (Trinity) (3 and 2); G. D. Hannay and J. S. F. Morrison lost to J. R. Keen (Wadham) and H. N. Fogg (Exeter) (1 up); F. G. L. Fairlie and R. V. K. Finlay lost to A. P. Miller (Wadham) and L. M. Wilson-Young (Balliol) (3 and 2).

SINGLES.—J. B. Beck (1 up) beat R. H. Baugh; W. A. Murray (1 up) beat A. C. Marples; R. H. Jobson lost to J. P. Marston (1 up); C. C. Bristowe (4 and 3) beat G. P. Jackson; J. A. Board (3 and 1) beat J. R. Keen; T. A. Bourn (2 and 1) beat H. M. Bray; G. D. Hannay lost to C. Sweeny (3 and 2); J. S. F. Morrison (3 and 1) beat H. N. Fogg; Lt. Le Fleming Shepherd (1 up) beat S. Scheftel; Maj. K. S. MacRae lost to A. M. Tew (5 and 4); R. V. K. Finlay lost to A. P. Miller (5 and 4); F. G. L. Fairlie (2 and 1) beat I. M. Wilson-Young.

HARD GAME FOR CAMBRIDGE.

HOLDERNESS DRIVES WELL.

The Walton Heath Club fielded one of their strongest sides against the Cambridge University team yesterday, and it was not surprising that the club gained a lead on the foursomes matches, which they secured by three to two with one halved. Play opened in stormy weather. The Light Blues did not record a win until their fifth couple, H. W. Higginson and I. K. McRosty, gained a one-hole win over O. C. Bevan and A. J. Pollen, but this narrow victory was supplemented by a runaway win by the Cantabs, P. A. Young and R. S. Fletcher, who beat R. G. W. Burbidge and Hon. C. Russell by 7 and 6. The Light Blues won the first hole, took eight shots at the second, and won the next seven holes in a row to turn with a lead of seven.

In their match against Sir Ernest Holderness, the amateur ex-champion, and E. Noel Layton, the Cantabs, E. M. Prain and H. C. Longhurst, often found themselves being trapped in the heather, and although they started by securing the first hole they were three down at the thirteenth, where a long drive by Holderness enabled his side to win the hole in a fine three. Following a half at the fifteenth, at which hole both Prain and Layton sank putts from about eight yards, the club pair got a four at the sixteenth for the match.

In the second foursome game Harry Braid, son of the open ex-champion, and E. B. Tipping were lucky to halve their match with the Cantabs, W. Ev. S. Bond and W. H. Bermingham, for the latter couple held a one-hole lead at the seventeenth, and Bermingham, pitching up to within three feet of the eighteenth hole, had left Bond with a short putt to secure victory for the Light Blues. Bond, however, failed with the putt the ball jumping in the air when struck; and Tipping, sinking his putt from twice the distance, squared the match for the club.

Home Club's Easy Win.

Walton Heath proved even stronger in the singles, and, winning nine games and halving one, were successful on the day with 13 points against 5. The only Cantabs to win in the afternoon were Longhurst, who did well to beat Layton by five and four, and N. A. Keith, who overwhelmed E. Legge by seven and five; but Bermingham halved with Braid.

FOURSOMES.—E M. Prain (Clare) and H. C. Longhurst (Clare) lost to Sir E. W. E. Holderness and E. Noel Layton (4 and 2). W. E. S. Bond (King's) and W. H. Bermingham (Sidney Sussex) halved with H. Braid and E. B. Tipping E. Martin-Smith (Pembroke) and W. C. Carr (Trinity) lost to G. Russell and H. E. Le Bas (4 and 3). N. A. Keith (Sidney Sussex) and H. L. Carr (Trinity) lost to E. Legge and R. Straker (1 up) H. W. Higginson (St. John's) and I. K. McRosty (Clare) (1 up) beat O. C. Bevan and A. J. Pollen. P. A. Young (Christ's) and R. S. Fletcher (Trinity) (7 and 6) beat R. G. W. Burbidge and Hon. Charles Russell.

SINGLES.—E M. Prain lost to Sir E. W. E. Holderness (4 and 3); M. C. Longhurst (5 and 4) beat E. Noel Layton; W. M. Bermingham halved with H. Braid; E. Martin-Smith lost to E. B. Tipping (3 up); W. C. Carr lost to G. Russell (3 and 2); W. E. S. Bond lost to R. Straker (1 up); N. A. Keith (7 and 5) beat E. Legge; I. K. McRosty lost to H. E. le Bas (4 and 3); H. W. Higginson lost to O. C. Bevan (4 and 3); R. S. Fletcher lost to R. G. W. Burbidge (2 up); H. L. Carr lost to A. J. Pollen (2 and 1); P. A. Young lost to Hon. Charles Russell (2 up).

CLUB COMPETITIONS.

BANSTEAD DOWNS.—J.B.: E. G. Mathew (18), 2 down.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD.—M.B.: B. M. Atkinson (8), 7 down. Men's Challenge Foursomes: E. Reid and T. E. Reid beat A. G. Gaydon and R. B. Miller (3 and 2).

BRIGHTON AND HOVE.—M.M.: J. V. Green, 83-9=74; R. G. Lurcott, 79-5=74, tied.

BROMLEY AND BICKLEY.—M.B.—Sen.: E. Walker, 1 dn., G. Kissow, 1 dn., tied. Jun.: H. K. Wilson, 4.

CHERTSEY.—M.B.: R. O. Lowe (5), 3 down; R. Bell (7) 3 down; A. N. Bridgeland (12), 3 down; W. M. Philbin (16), 3 down, tied.

COOMBE HILL.—W.C.M.: Sir Reginald Leeds, 84-12=72.

COPTHORNE.—M.B.: C. H. Sawyer (5), 1 down.

CREWS HILL.—B.—Sen.: A. L. Pryor (12), 1 dn. Jun.: H. L. Newton (14) and W. P. Davies (18), tied at 2 dn.

CROHAM HUEST.—M.M.—Sen.: Bryan Gilbert, 87-12=75. Jun.: C. L. Curties, 90-13=77, and W. E. Thomas, 90-13=77, tied.

CULVERDEN (Tunbridge Wells).—M.M.: G. Scott Page, 71-5=66; J. F. Pennink, 74-8=66, tied.

DENHAM.—M.M.—Senior: O. F. Phillips, 84-7=77. Junior: P. F. Walker, 87-12=75.

DULWICH AND SYDENHAM HILL.—M.B.—Sen.: L. W. Brown (4), 5 down; Alec Mitchell (7), 5 down, tied. Jun.: W. R. Edwards (17), 2 down.

EAST BRIGHTON.—M.M.—Senior: R. Crothers, 86-5=81. Junior: J. H. Densham, 92-17=75.

Arnold Cup.—Final: W. Curryer (13) beat F. E. B. Innis (6) by 4 and 3.

ENFIELD.—M.M.—Gold: H. Morris, 84-6=78.

FLACKWELL HEATH.—M.M.—Sen.: R. Jennison, 76-4=72, W. E. Redington, 79-7=72, tied. Jun.: C. W. V. King, 96-18=78.

HADLEY WOOD.—M.M.—Sen.: H. G. Dring, 93-12=81. Jun.: J. C. Kyd, 96-18=78.

HASTINGS.—M.M.—Sen.: R. L. Mansell, 79-3=76. Jun.: G. H. Mansell, 98-20=78.

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Continued from preceding column.

HINDHEAD.—M.B.: R. W. Hartley all sq.

HOME PARK.—M.M.—Sen.: C. S. Jeffery, 80-1=79, and J. C. Boys, 81-2=79, tied. Jun.: F. J. Humphrey, 93-18=75, and Col. H. P. Fennell, 95-20=75.

LONDON SCOTTISH (WIMBLEDON).—M.B.—Sen.: E. D. Strein (12), all square. Jun.: E. J. B. Spearing (18), 3 down.

MAIDENHEAD.—C.C.: W. H. Lillington, 84-10=74.

MUSWELL HILL.—M.M.—Class I.: J. J. Davies, 78-8=70.

NORTH MIDDLESEX.—President's Cup.—Final: R. B. Amos beat F. Chambers at 37th. J.M.: G. S. Johnson, 86-14=72. F. C. Polden, 90-18=72, tied.

PORTERS PARK.—M.M.—Sen.: G. F. Roberts, 75-4=71. Jun.: P. C. Gilman, 93-14=79. Open B.: G. F. Roberts (rec. 3), 3 up.

RANELAGH.—M.M.—Class I.: K. G. Holland, 78-5=73. Class II.: A. W. Heber-Percy, 90-16=74.

REDHILL AND REIGATE.—M.M.—Sen.: R. Thairwall, 82-12=70. Jun.: W. R. C. Dean-Robertson, 91-19=72.

RICHMOND.—M.M.—Senior: A. J. A. Wallace Barr (3), 3 up. Junior: H. Langley (15), 1 down.

ROCHESTER AND COBHAM PARK.—M.M.: R. N. Russell 81-4=77.

ROYAL MID-SURREY.—M.—Sen.: F. E. B. Moritz, 79-1=78, and P. W. Stone, 82-4=78, tied. Jun.: A. F. L. Thesiger, 87-11=76.

SHIRLEY PARK.—M.M.—Sen.: Dr. Davies, 88-14=74. Jun.: C. D. Anderson, 91-16=75.

STANMORE.—M.M.—Div. I.: J. Wylie, 81-11=70. Div. II.: G. Priestman, 84-13=71.

ST. GEORGE'S HILL.—M.B.: H. Davis (14), 2 dn.

SURBITON.—M.M.—Sen.: J. G. Durrant, 82-9=73. Jun.: W. G. Easterby, 85-14=71.

TEMPLE.—M.M.: L. G. Wall, 82-5=77.

WEST ESSEX.—M.M.: H. J. Curtis, 95-18=77.

WIMBLEDON PARK.—M.M.—Senior: G. R. Parry, 70-1=69. Junior: D. C. Johns, 81-16=65.

WORTHING.—M.M.—Div. I.: J. K. Matthew, 79, scr., 79. Div. II.: T. S. Bailey, 93-16=77; B. Jones, 95-18=77.

VARSITY FENCING

LIGHT BLUES DEFEATED.

LONDON WIN AFTER A KEEN STRUGGLE.

By LEON BERTRAND.

CAMBRIDGE, Saturday.

With a victory to their credit over the Dark Blues last term, the University of London descended upon Cambridge hopeful and determined. If Oxford had capitulated, why then should not the Cantabs "bow the knee"? This was the provocative mood in which the visitors set about their task of justifying their claim to be the "champion" university. And there was certainly grounds for their optimism, for they carried all before them in the opening event—the épée.

The master-spirit, C. P. Collins, started the good work with a win over L. J. Widdicomb, which, however, W. G. Walter neutralised by defeating G. L. Stroud, but S. F. Smith, with a flèche against C. H. Barnett, began what was to prove a series of five consecutive victories for the London University, who eventually finished triumphant by 7—1 and one double hit.

But London was not going to have matters all its own way. Cambridge fought back most courageously with the sabre, and after a ding-dong struggle prevailed on the last bout by 5—4, thus reducing their arrears by one point. The visitors had the best of the first round, scoring 2—1, a margin which seemed likely to be increased when Smith, facing R. Brook, held a 3—0 lead. But he stopped in his tracks, so to speak, and Brook, making an excellent recovery, snatched the verdict with a decisive beat cut at arm. Thereafter the Light Blues held sway, leading at the sixth bout by 4—2. London came again to equalise at 4—all, only to succumb on the final assault, wherein Brook was again the chief instrument, beating C. D. P. Jones by a riposte from 3—all.

Cambridge continued their uphill journey manfully. Faced with a deficit of 11—6, they were required to win the foil series 8—1 to gain the match, or 7—2 to divide the honours. In a bout characterised by good fencing, D. V. Morse beat Stroud, and the home side were further successful when A. C. F. Green and N. Abercrombie defeated P. Gorer and L. Delevoye respectively. Stroud then gained the odd hit against Green, and Gorer's beat lunge meant that the visitors were at least safe from defeat. A bout later Delevoye had accounted for Morse, and the University of London fencers had come into their own. Details:—

EPEE.—University of London: C. P. Collins and S. F. Smith, 3—0; G. L. Stroud, 1—1, double hit. Total, 7 wins. Cambridge University: W. G. Walter, 1—2; L. J. Widdicomb, 0—2—1; C. H. Barnett, 0—3. 1 win.

SABRE.—Cambridge University: K. C. Lewis and R. Brook, 2-1; N. Stewart, 1—5, 5 wins. University of London: C. M. Carlyle-Gall, 2—1; Smith and C. D. P. Jones, 1—2. 4 wins.

FOIL.—University of London: Stroud and L. Delevoye, 2—1: P. Gorer, 1—2. 5 wins. Cambridge University: D. V. Morse, 2—1; A. C. F. Green and N. Abercrombie, 1—2. 4 wins. University of London won by 16—10.

"DUELS" AT OXFORD.

BERTRANDS DISCLOSE CONTRASTS IN STYLE.

By M. POLLOCK-SMITH.

OXFORD, Saturday.

Bertrands won an enthusiastic match at Oxford by 3 weapons to nil and 17 "duels" to 10, scoring 7—2 with the foils and 5—4 with both épée and sabre. Play was never dull, particularly the foil, in which the combatants appeared to possess limitless energy, were forceful, athletic, yet produced good fencing.

The opening fight between Perone and Twite was an extraordinary contrast between the latter's solid defence and Perone's well-judged "coupé" attacks. Twite appeared fascinated by these "coupés," for only once did he employ the stop hit, although Perone advanced with his point in mid-air, literally inviting a "time" thrust.

Against de Amodio, de Beaumont's admirable decision was accompanied by a rare restraint and accuracy, which, besides winning him a meritorious victory, proved his ability to play a varied but orthodox foil game, for he scored two "1-2" attacks, a direct riposte, and a well-applied stop hit. Because he has shown his worth he cannot be excused his subsequent relapse into épée methods, through which he deservedly lost 4—0 to Twite, who fought steadily and gained Oxford's first victory.

From 4—1 down with the épée Oxford drew up to 4—5, and the sabre opened with Bertrand's 12—6 up and needing two victories to gain the day, while Oxford were required to win 8. Following Perone's 4—0 sabre win over Nash, Twite and Grant delayed the result by beating Jeffreys and Evill respectively, but at the twenty-second encounter Perone won the match for Bertrands in a good fight against Twite. The remaining four bouts were divided, and a hard-fought match closed with Bertrands victorious by 17—10. Scores:—

FOIL.—Bertrands: Athos Perone, 3—0; C. L. de Beaumont and Lt. B. Cederin, each 2—1. Total, 7 wins. Oxford: Charles Twite, 2—1; J. de Amodio and F. J. Walter, each 0—3. Total, 2 wins.

EPEE.—Bertrands: C. L. de Beaumont,, 3—0; W. A. Evill and Lt. B. Cederin, each 2—1. Total, 5 wins. Oxford: C. Twite and F. J. Walter, each 2—1; S. Gerard, 0—3. Total, 4 wins.

SABRE.—Bertrands: Athos Perone, 3—0; W. A. Evill and A. H. Jeffreys, each 1—2. Total, 5 wins. Oxford: C. Twite, 2—1; E. Grant and B. Nash each 1—2. Total, 4 wins.

WESTMINSTER SCHOOL BEATEN.

Inns of Court O.T.C. gained a fairly easy win against Westminster School in a three-a-side match with three weapons, fought at Westminster, by nine defeats to eighteen. The visitors thus gained their revenge for the defeat they sustained in last year's encounter.

The result of the foil contest does not reflect the true form of the School, for they fought well, but the greater experience of their opponents decided the issue. Most of the bouts in this series went to the limit of five hits. The fighting in the épée contest was both vigorous and even, and the result depended on the last bout, which W. W. Pulford secured to give Inns of Court the victory. R. R. Goodbody fought well for Westminster School in the sabre pool, but Inns of Court won. F. Aldworth being undefeated.

NARROW WIN FOR TOM HUGHES' CLUB.

In a five a-side match with the foil at Crowndale Road, Tom Hughes' Club gained a narrow win over Merchant Taylors' School by 12 defeats to 13. Details:—

TOM HUGHES' CLUB.—A. W. Speers, 0 defeats; G. Wildman, 1 defeat; A. W. Hazell, 3 defeats; G. Jackaman and B. Weyers, each 4 defeats. Total, 12 defeats.

MERCHANT TAYLORS' SCHOOL.—C. Mitchell, 1 defeat; T. C. Hornby and N. H. Carrier, each 2 defeats; A. Gardner and D. Mitchell, each 4 defeats. Total, 13 defeats.

MASKS' FOIL HANDICAP.

"Zabadee," unbeaten throughout the contest, won the foil handicap of the Masks' Fencing Club, which was decided at the London Fencing Club. There were fourteen entries, and some very spirited fencing was witnessed.

"Zabadee" met "Bogie," who was also undefeated in his pool, in a deciding fight between the pool winners, and won easily, despite conceding two hits. "Kay Bee" was also well to the front, having only one defeat, and that being from the winner.

CLUB COMPETITIONS.

BANSTEAD DOWNS.—J.B.: E. G. Mathew (18), 2 down.

BISHOP'S STORTFORD.—M.B.: B. M. Atkinson (8), 7 down. Men's Challenge Foursomes: E. Reid and T. E. Reid beat A. G. Gaydon and R. B. Miller (3 and 2).

BRIGHTON AND HOVE.—M.M.: J. V. Green, 83-9=74; R. G. Lurcott, 79-5=74, tied.

BROMLEY AND BICKLEY.—M.B.—Sen.: E

Association Football.

LEADERS FAIL ON DAY OF HEAVY SCORING.

NEWCASTLE'S PLIGHT—CHELSEA GAIN IN PROMOTION FIGHT.

BRIGHTON SCORE EIGHT.

On a day when goal scoring was prolific the leading clubs in the League had a poor time.

Sheffield Wednesday lost a point at home to their fellow-townsmen, and Manchester City lost at Derby.

As Grimsby got the points at the expense of the much improved Liverpool, Newcastle, through losing at Huddersfield, are now the bottom club.

Both the leading clubs in the Second Division (Oldham Athletic and Blackpool) surrendered. Bradford beat Blackpool by five clear goals.

Brentford improved their Southern chance of honours by winning at Newport, but Brighton, with an 8—2 victory at Merthyr, kept up their brilliant Cup form.

Matches at Plymouth and Torquay were postponed owing to the bad weather.

FIRST DIVISION.

Left with the goal virtually at his mercy a few minutes before the end, Hooper, of Sheffield Wednesday, shot wide, and the League leaders lost a home point to their neighbours Sheffield United as a result. The Wednesday were the better side, but the United's defence put up a splendid resistance.

YESTERDAY'S ATTENDANCES.

The following are the attendances at the chief matches in the four divisions of the Football League:—

Sheffield Wednesday v. Sheffield United ...	50,000
Tottenham Hotspur v. Chelsea	35,000
Bolton Wanderers v. Arsenal	28,000
Everton v. Portsmouth	25,000
Leicester City v. Middlesbrough	25,000
Birmingham v. Blackburn Rovers	20,000
Manchester United v. West Ham United ..	20,000
Millwall v. Oldham Athletic	20,000
Bradford v. Blackpool	18,000
Norwich City v. Northampton	12,000
Stockport County v. Southport	11,000
Port Vale v. Carlisle United	10,000
Fulham v. Exeter City	10,000
Queen's Park Rangers v. Southend	8,000
Crystal Palace v. Gillingham	8,000

The United scored first, Dunne getting a goal after twenty minutes. Burgess levelled matters eight minutes later—and that ended the scoring.

Neither Bolton Wanderers nor the Arsenal could get a goal at Bolton. The workmanship of both sides was poor. The youthful and very promising Bastin was a dangerous raider at outside-left for the Arsenal.

Camsell's goal for Middlesbrough eleven minutes after the start at Leicester looked an ill omen for the home side. The City did not open at all well, and there was no doubting Middlesbrough's superiority in the first twenty minutes of the game. Leicester, however, like wine, improved with time, and Chandler's equalising goal after thirty-six minutes was encouraging. A minute from the interval Hine gave Leicester the lead.

With Middlesbrough handicapped by an injury to Camsell—he limped about at outside-right, Pease taking his place at centre-forward—Leicester were on top in the second half, and Chandler and Hine added to their score.

Blackburn Rovers, for whom Bourton and Imrie scored, deserved their victory at Birmingham. The home club led at the interval by a goal scored by Bradford.

Jennings and Longden, of Leeds United, missed open goals in the first half at Burnley. Leeds, who were the more polished side, made amends after the interval. Jennings scoring twice and Duggan once.

Robinson's goalkeeping kept Aston Villa at bay in the first half at Sunderland. Encouraged by an interval lead of a goal by Gunson, which Robinson's goalkeeping had made possible, Sunderland dominated the game in the second half, goals being added by Clunas (2)—one from a penalty—and Wood. Brown scored the Villa's only goal from a penalty five minutes from the end.

Grimsby established their supremacy over Liverpool in the first half of the game at Grimsby. It was well for the home club that Coglin succeeded in getting two goals during this period, for Jack was as good as his master after the interval, Liverpool scoring twice, through Smith, and Grimsby once through Coglin.

If Manchester City's marksmanship had been equal to their speed, skill in other matters, and team work, they would have scored a point at Derby. Both teams played well, but Derby County had the better marksmen, and won as a result. Bedford (2), Bowers, and Crook scored for Derby: Tait and Brook for the City.

Two goals by Magnall on time caused Newcastle's defeat at Huddersfield in a poor match.

Without Hufton in goal, West Ham found Manchester United's forwards fast movers in the mud. Spence scored all the United's goals—4—Earle and Watson replying for the visitors.

Portsmouth nearly won at Everton. With the end in sight Smith scored for Pompey, and Dean equalised only just in time to save a point.

SECOND DIVISION.

Millwall succeeded in mastering the Second Division leaders in the mud at New Cross. There was some good football by both sides, despite the heavy going, but Millwall were the stronger at half-back, and their general team work was better. Cock scored both goals for Millwall. Littlewood obtained Oldham's goal near the end of the game.

For Blackpool just now "the times are out of joint." Although at Park Avenue, Bradford, yesterday they were but shadows of their former selves. The Bradford team, who played football of a high standard, were much too good for them. Millership (2), Davis (2), and McLean scored for Bradford without reply.

Four minutes after the game had started at Tottenham the wind blew a square centre by Thompson through the Chelsea goal. This touch of nature lost Chelsea a point. Taking the game all through, they were a better side than the Hotspur. Before Harper had scored the second goal for the Spurs, Spiers, the home goalkeeper, had been very hard pressed, and had effected very clever saves from shots by Wilson, Miller, and Crawford. Tottenham's second goal happened twenty minutes from the start, and when Crawford scored for Chelsea two minutes from the interval the visitors can wisely be said to have had their due.

For the first twenty minutes of the second half, which culminated in an equalising goal by Pearson, it was nearly all Chelsea. The Spurs then made a spurt. Cook put in a hard shot which went through off the post, and Tottenham were ahead again. Chelsea then pressed hard, and Mills equalised near the end of the game.

Bell, Hull City's left-back and captain, was carried off the field on a stretcher just before the interval at Nottingham. Andrews and James had scored two goals for Notts County before this happened, and the home club were the better side. Andrews and Haden added goals for Notts County after the interval, and Duncan obtained one for Hull City.

Although they were without Dent and Graham, Nottingham Forest put up a stout fight at Southampton. The home club won by goals scored by Haines and Weale.

Bristol City's defence collapsed at home in the second half, Stoke scoring five times. Wilson (4), Kirkham and Bussey got the Stoke goals; Paul and Harris replied for the City.

Giving of their best, Reading (through Kennedy (2) and Bacon) beat Charlton (Butler) by 3—1.

Despite a poor second half, the game at West Bromwich was lively. Bury were outpaced and deservedly lost. Carter (2), Glidden (2), and Evans scored for the Albion, and Brant for Bury.

Cardiff City threw away many chances, and Bradford City won by an only goal, which Mitchell obtained after thirty minutes.

There was a lot of commonplace football at Preston, where Wolverhampton Wanderers shared the points with North End. The home club missed G. H. Smithies, away playing for The Rest against England in the amateur international trial at Ilford. McClelland, who usually plays inside-right nowadays, was not happy in the amateur's place at centre-forward. Preston's goal was of the gift variety. Tootill, the Wolves' goalkeeper, turning a corner kick by Harrison through his own posts.

THIRD DIVISION.

Shankly scored four goals for Southend, who won 5—2 on Queen's Park Rangers' ground.

For Brighton, at Merthyr, Kirkwood scored four goals in rapid succession. Vallance, the Brighton centre, also got three, and the Seasiders' 8—2 victory was a tribute to their ball control on a deplorable surface.

Blakemore and the two Lanes got the Brentford goals at Newport, for whom Gittins alone replied.

Simpson had a "hat-trick" for Crystal Palace, Gillingham losing 5—1.

INTERNATIONAL MATCH.

Ireland	Wales	0

THE LEAGUE.—DIV. I.

Birmingham	1 Blackburn Rovers ...	2
Bolton Wands.	0 Arsenal	0
Burnley	0 Leeds United	3
Derby Co.	4 Manchester City ...	2
Everton	1 Portsmouth	1
Grimsby Town	3 Liverpool	2
Huddersfield	2 Newcastle United ...	0
Leicester City	4 Middlesbrough	1
Manchester Utd. ...	4 West Ham United...	2
Sheffield Wed.	1 Sheffield United	1
Sunderland	4 Aston Villa	1

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals For	Agst.	P.
Sheffield Wed....	25	15	6	4	63	30	36
Manchester City	26	14	6	6	63	47	34
Derby County ...	26	14	4	8	51	47	32
Leeds United ...	26	14	2	10	50	37	30
Blackburn Rovs.	28	12	5	11	69	65	29
Huddersfield T....	27	12	5	10	40	44	29
Liverpool	27	12	5	10	46	53	29
Aston Villa	26	12	4	10	53	52	28
Leicester City ...	27	12	4	11	57	58	28
Bolton Wands....	27	10	7	10	50	42	27
Middlesbrough ...	27	12	3	12	58	55	27
Sheffield United	27	11	4	12	56	55	26
Burnley	27	9	7	11	55	64	25
Manchester U. ...	27	11	3	13	43	54	25
Portsmouth	26	8	8	10	44	42	24
Arsenal	26	9	5	12	40	38	23
Birmingham	27	8	7	11	42	40	23
West Ham U.	27	9	5	13	54	56	23
Sunderland	26	8	7	11	43	51	23
Everton	27	6	9	12	47	57	21
Grimsby T.	25	8	4	13	46	61	20
Newcastle U. ...	26	9	2	15	47	69	20

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION III. (Southern).

B'mouth and B.A. ...	1 Coventry City	0
Crystal Palace	5 Gillingham	1
Fulham	2 Exeter City	2
Merthyr Town	2 Brighton and H. A...	8
Newport Co.	1 Brentford	3
Norwich City	4 N'thampton Town ...	3
Queen's Pk Rangers..	2 Southend Utd.	5
Walsall	1 Luton Town	0
Watford	3 Clapton Orient	0

Matches postponed owing to unfit ground:—Torquay United v. Bristol Rovers, Plymouth Argyle v. Swindon Town.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals For	Agst.	Pts.
Brentford	26	18	3	5	61	27	39
Plymouth A.....	23	15	6	2	57	21	36
Brighton & H.A.	24	15	4	5	57	31	34
Northampton T...	24	15	3	6	41	23	33
Bournemouth	23	11	8	4	43	24	30
Southend Utd. ...	25	10	10	5	41	33	30
Norwich City	26	12	6	8	55	49	30
Crystal Palace	27	11	7	9	55	58	29
Fulham	25	11	6	8	50	48	28
Coventry City	24	12	3	9	54	40	27
Queen's Pk. R....	24	8	8	8	34	41	24
Walsall	25	9	5	11	46	48	23
Luton Town	25	8	6	11	37	49	22
Swindon Town	26	7	7	12	41	47	21
Exeter City	25	7	6	12	43	47	20
Clapton Orient	24	5	10	9	22	32	20
Newport Co.	25	7	5	13	43	50	19
Watford	26	7	5	14	32	45	19
Torquay Utd.	26	6	6	14	38	59	18
Bristol R.	23	6	5	12	43	52	17
Gillingham	27	6	4	17	27	57	16
Merthyr Town	23	2	7	14	26	68	11

SCOTTISH LEAGUE.
DIVISION I.

Morton	2 Queen's Park 4

SCOTTISH CUP.
SECOND ROUND.

Aberdeen	5 Nithsdale Wan. 1
Airdrieonians	8 Murrayfield Ams. ... 3
Albion Rovers	2 Beith 1
Ayr United	1 Hibernians 3
Celtic	5 Arbroath 0
Dundee Utd.	0 Partick Thistle 3
Dundee	4 St Johnstone..... 1
Falkirk Ath.	1 Queen of the Sth.... 0
Forfar Ath.....	0 St. Mirren 0
Hamilton Acads.	4 Kilmarnock 2
Leith Ath.	2 Clachnacudden 0
Montrose	3 Inverness Citadel ... 0
Motherwell	3 Clyde 2
Rangers	2 Cowdenbeath 2
Hearts	0 St. Bernards..... 0
Vale of Leithen	2 King's Park 7

SOUTHERN LEAGUE.
EASTERN SECTION.

Folkestone	5 Guildford City 1
Kettering Town	5 Bournem'th & B. E. 2
Northampton Res....	3 Norwich C. Res. ... 4
Poole	1 Grays Thurrock Utd. 1
Sheppey Utd.	3 Northfleet Utd. 2
Sittingbourne	2 Peterboro & F. Utd. 2

WESTERN SECTION.

Bath City	4 Barry Town 1
Bristol Rovers Res.	2 Torquay Utd. Res... 2
Ebbw Vale.....	5 Merthyr Town Res. 1
Exeter City Res. ...	4 Taunton Town 2
Swindon Town Res.	1 Plymouth A. Res. ... 0

THE LEAGUE.—DIVISION II.

Bristol City	2 Stoke City	6
Bradford	5 Blackpool	0
Cardiff City	0 Bradford City	1
Millwall	2 Oldham Ath.	1
Notts County	4 Hull City	1
Preston N. End	1 Wolverhampton W....	1
Reading	3 Charlton Ath.	1
Southampton	2 Notts Forest	0
Swansea Town	0 Barnsley	2
Tottenham H'spur ...	3 Chelsea	3
West Brom. Albion...	5 Bury	1

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals For	Agst.	Pts.
Oldham Ath.	26	15	7	4	60	29	37
Blackpool	26	17	2	7	66	51	36
Chelsea	27	12	10	5	48	27	34
Bradford	26	13	6	7	55	44	32
Bury	27	13	4	10	52	47	30
Southampton	27	12	5	10	53	49	29
Wolverh'pton W.	27	11	7	9	53	49	29
W. Brom. A.	26	12	4	10	72	53	28
Charlton Ath. ..	26	9	9	8	39	36	27
Cardiff City	27	11	5	11	37	38	27
Stoke City	28	10	6	12	53	53	26
Hull City	26	10	5	11	37	37	25
Notts Forest	26	8	9	9	32	41	25
Notts County	27	6	12	9	38	41	24
Tottenham H	27	8	8	11	38	46	24
Preston N.E.	27	9	6	12	42	52	24
Bradford City	26	8	8	11	38	46	22
Reading	27	7	8	12	33	44	22
Bristol City	26	8	6	12	45	60	22
Millwall	26	6	10	10	40	55	22
Barnsley	26	7	6	13	34	47	20
Swansea T.	27	6	6	15	35	48	18

THE LEAGUE.—DIV. III. (Northern).

Accrington Stanley...	7 Halifax Town	1
Barrow	4 Wigan Borough	1
Darlington	7 Tranmere Rovers ...	2
Doncaster Rovers	2 Chesterfield	1
Hartlepools United...	4 Lincoln City	0
New Brighton	2 Nelson	1
Port Vale	4 Carlisle United	0
Rochdale	5 Wrexham	4
South Shields	5 Rotherham United...	0
Stockport Co.	2 Southport	2
York City	4 Crewe Alexandra ...	2

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals For	Agst.	Pts.
Port Vale	26	19	4	3	67	24	42
Stockport County	24	16	5	3	64	27	37
Darlington	27	13	4	10	67	52	30
Accrington Stan...	25	12	5	8	62	43	29
Crewe Alex.	25	12	4	9	55	41	28
South Shields	27	11	6	10	46	51	28
Hartlepools Utd...	25	9	9	7	47	39	27
York City	25	7	13	5	38	32	27
Northport	27	8	11	8	53	46	27
Carlisle United...	26	11	5	10	61	48	27
Chesterfield	25	11	4	10	44	40	26
Nelson	27	10	6	11	37	47	26
Lincoln City	25	6	13	6	37	34	25
Rochdale	25	10	5	10	54	56	25
Tranmere Rovers	26	9	6	11	50	53	24
New Brighton....	27	9	4	14	40	60	22
Doncaster Rovers	24	9	3	12	35	44	21
Wigan Borough ..	27	8	5	14	41	57	21
Wrexham	25	7	6	12	36	49	20
Halifax Town	28	6	7	15	32	48	19
Rotherham Utd....	25	6	6	13	38	58	18
Barrow	25	7	3	15	27	61	17

CENTRAL LEAGUE.

Manchester C. Res.	3 Derby Co. Res.	2
Aston Villa Res	3 Burnley Res.	1
Blackburn R. Res	5 W. Brom. Alb Res.	4
Blackpool Res.	0 Birmingham Res....	5
Bury Res.	0 Huddersfield T. Res.	0
Leeds U. Res	5 Bolton Wan. Res. ...	2
Oldham A. Res. ...	1 Manchester U. Res.	1
Sheffield Utd. Res....	1 Sheffield W. Res....	5
Stoke City Res.	4 Everton Res.	4
Wolverh'pton W. Res	3 Preston N.E. Res....	0

MIDLAND LEAGUE.

Boston	4 Loughborough C.....	2
Frickley C.	0 Shirebrook	0
Scarborough	1 Scunthorpe U.	1
Wombwell	2 Worksop Town	5
Lincoln City Res....	10 Mexborough A.	1
Chesterfield Res. ...	0 Doncaster R. Res....	0
Gainsborough T. ...	10 Wath Ath.	0
Barnsley Res	3 Denaby Utd.	1
Rotherham U Res...	4 Bradford Res.	2
Grantham	3 Grimsby Town Res.	2

LONDON COMBINATION.

Arsenal Res.	5 Fulham Res.	0
Brentford Res.	7 Watford Res.	0
Brighton and H. Res.	1 Tottenham H. Res....	2
Chelsea Res.	1 Leicester C. Res. ...	2
Clapton O. Res.	8 Southampton Res....	4
Charlton Ath. Res....	1 Crystal Pal. Res.....	2
Coventry C. Res. ...	5 Swansea T. Res.	1
Luton T. Res.	1 Cardiff C. Res.	2
Portsmouth Res. ...	0 Reading Res.	6
Southend U. Res. ...	0 Queen's P. R. Res....	3
West Hm U. Res....	2 Millwall Res.	0

IRELAND RUN RIOT

SEVEN GOALS AGAINST WALES.

A POOR GAME.

By A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.

IRELAND 7, WALES 0.

BELFAST, Saturday.

Playing a game which they all too rarely display in amateur internationals, Ireland at Belfast to-day thrashed Wales by 7 clear goals.

Ireland kicked off against a slight breeze, but in the first minute Keenor tested Gardiner, who a few seconds later saved from Stan Davies. Wales played better football, but in a strong Irish rush Chambers missed narrowly, and then Bambrick was neatly stopped by Jones. The ground cut up badly, but play was lively, and although Ireland were the aggressors, their attack lacked balance.

Mahood, when he received from Jones, did not make any progress, and from Hugh's clearance Keenor carried play towards Gardiner, and W. Davies shot over the bar. After fourteen minutes Rowley sent a magnificent pass to Chambers, and the Bury player took the ball almost to the Welsh goal. He passed to Bambrick, who scored easily. Two minutes later Mahood almost added number two.

On several occasions McCluggage was called upon to kick clear when the Irish half-backs failed to stop the Welsh forwards. Fulton, too, was conspicuous. Chambers again got away but his excellent pass was lost. Play at this stage was scrappy, and neither side played first-class football. Chambers was the most prominent player on the field.

Gardiner failed to get the ball away as Martin shot strongly, but the Irish goalkeeper saved at the expense of a corner. W. Davies and Williams were a source of trouble to the Irish defence, and often McCluggage had to run across to clear. With no one to beat but Finnigan, Bambrick and Mahood both missed. Offside by the Welsh attack, and then McCluggage sent his forwards away.

Jones next came into the picture when he stopped Stan Davies, who was about to shoot. Finnigan fisted clear from Mahood, and once again the Welsh left wing got going, and a shot from Martin skimmed the cross-bar. Rowley then forced a corner, which Chambers cleared well, for Jones to test Finnigan. Just before the interval Bambrick scored a second goal for Ireland.

Bambrick's second goal was one of the best seen in an International match at Belfast for some time. After beating three of the Welsh players, he placed the ball in the net well out of Finnigan's reach.

In the first five minutes of the second half Chambers tested the Welsh custodian, who cleared smartly. Wales had a period of attacking, but after nine minutes Bambrick kicked the ball into the net for Ireland's third goal.

The score flattered Ireland, and had the Welsh forwards taken advantage of many openings, they would not have had a blank sheet. After twelve minutes, from a free kick taken by Sloan, Bambrick netted again, and six minutes later Chambers passed neatly for Bambrick to score Ireland's fifth goal. Wales were now outclassed.

Rowley, Chambers, and Bambrick played well together, and caused Kennor and Jones much anxiety. The Irish defence completely mastered the Welsh forwards, and in the closing stages play was dull and uninteresting, although Wales forced several corners. Two minutes from time Bambrick scored the sixth goal, and from a free-kick thirty yards out McCluggage got Ireland's seventh goal.

TEAMS.

IRELAND.—A. Gardener (Cliftonville), goal; McCluggage (Burnley) (capt.) and Fulton (Belfast Celtic), full-backs, McCleery (Linfield), Corpl. Jones (Army and Linfield), and Sloan (Linfield), half-backs; Chambers (Bury), Rowley (Southampton), Bambrick (Linfield), McCambridge (Ballymena), and J. Mahood (Belfast Celtic), forwards.

WALES.—Finnigan (Wrexham), goal; R. Hugh (Newport County) and Jones (Manchester United), full-backs; Lawrence (Clapton Orient), Keenor (Cardiff City), and Pugsley (Charlton Athletic), half-backs; W. Davies (Notts County), Williams (Bristol City), Martin (Newport County), Stan Davies (Rotherham), and Cook (Portsmouth), forwards.

INTERNATIONAL TABLE.

	P.	W.	D.	L.	Goals For	Agst.	Ps.
England	2	2	0	0	9	0	4
Ireland	2	1	0	1	7	3	2
Scotland	1	1	0	0	4	2	2
Wales	3	0	0	3	2	17	0

PUBLIC SCHOOLS SOCCER.

CHARTERHOUSE WIN AGAIN.

Charterhouse followed up their mid-week win against the Casuals by defeating the Old Westminsters, whom they beat by five goals to one. The Old Westminsters pressed for most of the first half, but failed to score.

After the interval Charterhouse attacked and scored five times. The Old Westminsters' solitary goal came in a peculiar way, the ball bouncing downwards from the crossbar and going in off the goalkeeper's back.

HIGHGATE NARROWLY BEATEN.

Highgate put up a stout resistance at home against the Old Carthusians before being beaten by the odd goal in three. The School, who have lost three of last term's side, were at a further disadvantage through the absence of three injured players—Arditchogion, Westerop, and Smart. L. S. Cohen beat the School goalkeeper twice in rapid succession in the early stages of the game, and ten minutes later A. H. Goodwin put through for Highgate, but there was no further score.

ETON WIN A FAST GAME.

Eton College played the White Rabbits at Eton, and a fast and interesting game ended in a victory for Eton by 3 goals to 1. The visitors had a good side out, including J. M. Peterson the old Oxford Blue, and Lord Dalmeny. During the opening half Eton, who had the better of the play, finished weakly and at the interval there was no score.

On crossing over D. G. Graham Campbell shot an excellent goal for the School, and soon afterwards P. J. Perkins headed a clever goal. The Old Boys then attacked, and, following a corner kick, J. M. Peterson hot into the corner of the net. Eton, however continued to have the better of the exchanges, and Sir T. Watson scored a splendid goal. Eton deserved their win. G. I. Cuthbert and D. G. Graham Campbell were very good on the right wing.

SHREWSBURY BEAT MALVERN.

The Shrewsbury-Malvern match at Shrewsbury resulted in a victory for the home side by 6—3. The winners had much the better of the first half and led by 4—0 at the interval. Malvern then rallied and scored through F. A. Hamilton (2) and D. C. Follard, but Shrewsbury, for whom J. F. Snow (2), G. R. Moxon, E. A. Barlow, D. G. Butterworth, and W. S. Preston were the scorers, were the better side, and served their win.

ORIEL DRAW AT REPTON.

At Repton yesterday Oriel, Oxford, led at half time by 4 goals to 3, but the School succeeded in effecting a draw of 4 all. Stuart (2), Westby, and Inge (penalty) scored for Oriel, and Human (2), Mendl, and Llewellyn for Repton, who were minus five of last term's team. Oriel were without Andrews. It was a fast spirited game. Pritchard, Crease, Stuart, Law, and Westby for Oriel and Human, Barnes, and Mendl for the School doing best.

FOREST'S HEAVY DEFEAT.

At Snaresbrook, Forest School were beaten by six goals to nil by the Casuals, who fielded a very strong eleven. The School played well in the opening half, but after the interval they were outplayed. H. Gilbert, M. Masters (3), and J. R. Gorogleedes (2) scored the goals.

CARNERA FIGHT DEVELOPMENT.

SUBPŒNAS ISSUED "TO ALL CONCERNED."

CHICAGO, Saturday.

The Illinois Boxing Commission announced today that subpœnas have been issued requiring the presence of all concerned in last night's fight at the investigation to be held on Tuesday next. Meanwhile, the purses and the forfeits deposited by Carnera and Rioux are being held up pending the result of the inquiry.

"The Commission intends to press this investigation to its utmost limits," said General John V. Clinnin, the chairman, "and we shall deal drastically with any or all of those connected with the match who may be found guilty of violations of the rules."—*Reuter's Special Service.*

RIFLE SHOOTING.

The North London Rifle Club held a winter qualifying shoot for the Chairman's prize in heavy rain at Bisley. Some good scores were registered despite the adverse conditions. The competitors fired 10 shots at 300 and 600 yards, an dE Grimwade, who headed the list, dropped only two points at each range, and returned a score of 96 points. The Stock Exchange Rifle Club held three contests, and a team match on the City Ranges. E. A. Hankins, A. E. Sharp, and F. Beard headed the list in the spoon shoot, with 99 points each. F. Beard won the time limit contest with 99 points, and the Trustees and Managers' series with 99 points. The Stock Exchange B team beat Lever House R.C. by 576 points to 568 in the team match.

AMATEUR TRIAL SURPRISES.

THE REST ROUT ENGLAND.

SMITHIES AND COATES SHINE.

ENGLAND 0, THE REST 7.

The Rest showed brilliant form in the first half. Seven minutes after the kick-off, following good work by Coates and Beswick, Smithies gave The Rest the lead from close range.

Doggart accomplished clever work at inside-left for England, whose halves, especially Ewer, were rather the better served, but for the most part The Rest forwards showed superiority both in combination and in finishing. Much pressure by England brought no success, and in twenty-six minutes Whewell, with a tremendous shot from twenty-five yards' range, increased The Rest's lead.

In the next four minutes two more goals were secured for The Rest. Coates put through the first from Watson's centre, and he added another goal after good work with Beswick. The Rest halves improved wonderfully towards half-time.

Heavy rain fell during the interval, and in the second half caused the ground to churn up, but the standard of football remained high. After an early attack the England forwards and halves fell away and The Rest established pronounced superiority. Smithies took a pass from Burns to add a fifth goal, and in the next minute Coates put on the sixth, while near the end Smithies scored again.

The Rest beat England in the Amateur International Trial match at Ilford yesterday by seven goals to nil. From the start the Rest forwards showed superiority, but for a time the England halves held them finely. When, however, rain rendered the already soft ground extremely heavy, the England intermediate line had to give way, and the Rest halves displayed corresponding improvement.

Thus England were, in the end, thoroughly beaten by a team possessing better understanding and more skill and thrust in finishing their attacks.

Coates showed himself to be the best winger on the field, and Smithies played with much greater pace and skill in the centre than did Ashton for England. Burns and Beswick, the Rest inside-forwards, were also reliable, and though Doggart accomplished many clever things, the England front line never developed real effectiveness in combination.

All through the match Ewer, the England captain and left half-back, played with pluck and skill, and Gregory and Eric Gates worked hard against a virile attack. Knight and Preston, the Rest backs, also left little to be desired, and Gilderson and Whewell proved sound halves.

AMATEUR INTERNATIONAL TRIAL.

England	0	The Rest	7

ATHENIAN LEAGUE.

Barking Town	7	Cheshunt	0
Southall	0	Enfield	0
Wealdstone	2	Barnet	3
Leyton	4	Finchley	2
Sutton United	0	Uxbridge Town	3

RESERVE SECTION.

Redhill	2	Walthamstow Ave....	3
Enfield	2	Southall	2
Barnet	7	Wealdstone	2
Cheshunt	1	Barking Town	3
Finchley	1	Leyton	4

ARTHUR DUNN CUP.
SECOND ROUND REPLAY.

Old Bradfieldians ...	3	Lancing Old Boys ...	2

A.F.A. SENIOR CUP.
THIRD ROUND.

Merton	1	Old Owens	2
Barclays Bank	4	Hitchin Town	4
Midland Bank	1	Civil Service	1
Ealing Association...	3	Aquarius	3
Cambridge Town	8	Eastbourne	3
Ipswich Town	7	Norsemen	1
Old Malvernians	3	Lloyds Bank	1

CIVIL SERVICE LEAGUE.
DIVISION I.

Colonial Office	3	Board of Education.	7
Customs and Excise..	1	Taxes	3
Ministry of Health A	2	Ministry of Pensions	1
Ministry of Labour.	5	Agricola	3

DIVISION II.

Land Registry	3	Taxes II.	1
Minis. of Health B	2	Royal Mint	2
Customs and Ex. II.	2	Dollis Hill	2

CIVIL SERVICE SHIELD.

War Office II	2	Board of Trade.....	5

ISTHMIAN LEAGUE.

Dulwich Hamlet ...	5	London Caledonians	3
St. Albans City ...	5	Oxford City	2
Casuals	5	Ilford	3
Woking	5	Kingstonian	1

KENT LEAGUE.

R.N. Depot	7	Folkestone	0
Maidstone	3	Sittingbourne P. M.	1
Gillingham	4	Dartford	3
Dover United	1	Sittingbourne	4
Tunbridge Wells ...	7	Royal Marines	2
Sheppey	7	Canterbury Waverley	3
Chatham	3	Bexley Heath	2

KENT SENIOR SHIELD.

Margate	1

MOTOR MATTERS.

THE BUYER'S PROBLEM.

A NEW OR SECOND-HAND CAR.

By GEORGE C. STEAD.

I have been presented with a problem by a reader which must be causing great anxiety to many motorists. He has to dispose of his present car, and is desirous of purchasing another which, for financial reasons, he must keep for five or six years. Should he buy a new low-priced car or a second-hand one of better class but at about the same price?

It is impossible to give a definite answer to this question as so much depends on circumstances. In the case of a new car, it will have the whole of its effective life before it, while a used car has already lost its first youth. On the other hand, a car after a season's use, is often in better condition than one new from the shops, and it is thus a better proposition for the man who wants to keep the car for several years.

The question of depreciation does not seem to be of importance. The car is to be kept for most of its useful life, and its market value at the end of that time would be purely nominal. The new car, of course, would have the greater depreciation, but this factor need not be considered.

A very large number of owners to-day do the whole of their driving on used cars. They state that in most cases they get greater satisfaction at less expense than by purchasing a new car. The chief uncertainty in the purchase of a used car is its condition. Unless one knows its history, careful examination before purchase is necessary, in case there are any hidden defects. But if the car is first "vetted" by a competent engineer, the purchase can be made with every confidence.

Taking all matters into consideration, it would appear that it is the sounder policy to purchase a second-hand car of good make rather than a new one at about the same price.

DRIVING IN 1930.

With the prospect of the abolition of the speed limit, "Make haste slowly" would appear to be the best motto for the motorist for the 1930 season. The days have gone when one could drive about the country at high speed with little hindrance from other traffic or danger from cross-roads.

The constantly increasing number of cars on the road has reduced the average speed of travel. Some of those drivers who have been accustomed to drive as fast as they like are somewhat impatient at the change which is taking place, and, in some cases, show this impatience by trying to overtake other cars when the road conditions do not permit.

The motorist who wishes to get the maximum of enjoyment out of his pastime should, therefore, resign himself to the fact that he will rarely be able to travel fast, and that his speed must depend entirely on the convenience of other road users, whether on wheels or on foot.

In the past I may have belonged to that class of driver who delighted in covering the greatest distance in the shortest time, but I have been gradually educated into adapting my speed to that of other traffic. Quite frankly, I must admit I now find that motoring is a far less strenuous and more restful occupation than in the past, and the enjoyment I get from my driving is proportionately greater.

OVERTAKING.

If there is any possibility of crowded roads I modify my schedule accordingly. I used to set 25 m.p.h. as my minimum average on a long run, but nowadays 20 m.p.h. is the modified minimum. Even the driver of a very fast car has the greatest difficulty, without taking risks, in getting ahead of other traffic when the roads are really crowded.

This question of overtaking brings me to one of the most annoying nuisances of the road—the driver of a particularly slow car who will keep well in the middle of the road and refuses to pull in to allow other traffic to overtake.

Possibly he feels at his safest when he is as far from each kerb as possible, but the result is that he holds up a long line of cars which would otherwise have passed him at a perfectly safe rate of speed.

The habit of these drivers in keeping to that portion of the road to which they are not entitled is to a large extent responsible for the growing habit of passing on the near side. This is an exceptionally dangerous proceeding and should be avoided as much as possible.

The general slowing down of road traffic will result in greater safety of the roads. Most motorists now realise that they will have to take their speed from that of other road users, and the lower average speed will allow them to pull up quicker in emergencies and give them more time in which to make decisions.

BILLS IN PARLIAMENT.

An unusually large number of private Bills have been introduced in the present session of Parliament by local authorities and private concerns

Over one hundred of these Bills and Provisional Orders, many containing provisions of serious importance to motor owners, have been studied by the Automobile Association.

Among the proposals that have been investigated are (a) driving tests by local authorities, (b) restrictions against the passing of tram cars on the near side; (c) provisions against certain classes of vehicles using prescribed thoroughfares, (d) powers to close streets for carnivals, processions, etc.; (e) extra charges for water used for washing motor-cars; (f) special traffic regulations for bridges; (g) powers to construct new tramways; and (h) proposed application of hackney carriage law to private hire vehicles, etc.

Acting in conjunction with the Motor Legislation Committee, the A.A. has scrutinised every Bill. In some instances negotiations with the promoters in the hope of securing the necessary amendments are in progress, but where this is not possible arrangements are being made to strongly oppose before the Parliamentary Committee dealing with these Bills the various proposals that are against the interests of motorists.

Light Lamps (London): 5.20 p.m.

OFFICIAL SCRATCHINGS.

LINCOLNSHIRE HANDICAP.—Sundown III., at 9 a.m. yesterday.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Felcourt Handicap Hurdle, Lingfield: Polish Patriot. Sussex Selling Handicap Hurdle, Lingfield: Tested, Patsy. Small Heath Selling Hurdle, Birmingham: Best o' Luck, Douanier. Nottinghamshire Breeders' Foal Plate: Renira colt (2 years). All Engagements: Regency II., Solglen (dead)

ECLIPSE STAKES OF INDIA.

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Sir Victor Sassoon's Star of Italy, winner of the King-Emperor's Cup and second in the Viceroy's Cup, to-day won another fine victory in taking the Eclipse Stakes of the Western India Turf Club, a race worth £4,275, together with a gold Cup valued at £225. The nominator of Star of Italy also received £750. Acumen was second, with Shipshape third.

The totalisator betting worked out at 3 to 2 on Star of Italy, 7 to 2 agst Acumen, and 11 to 1 agst Shipshape.

There were a number of English and Australian thoroughbreds in the field. The owner of Acumen received £1,500 and the owner of Shipshape £750.—*Reuter's Special Service.*

PENINSULA SUMMER HANDICAP.

CAPE TOWN, Saturday.

The race for the Peninsula Summer Hanicap over one mile was run on the Milnerton Turf Club's course this afternoon. The race was won by Mr. S. Garrett's English-bred Roamer. The prize-money was £3,000, of which £480 goes to the second and £240 to the third. Blue Fox was second, Southern Lad third, and Bluestone fourth. Roamer won by a neck a head separating second and third.

The time of the winner was 1 min. 42 3-5 sec. Twenty-five horses ran. Betting: 4 to 1 agst Roamer, 5 to 2 Blue Fox, 16 to 1 Southern Lad, 33 to 1 Bluestone.—*Reuter's Special Service.*

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RACING NOTES.

PERFECTING THE "TOTE."

ADVANTAGES OF THE NEW MACHINES.

THIS WEEK'S "LINCOLN" ACCEPTANCES.

By "FAIRWAY."

Despite all the criticism showered upon Sir Clement Hindley and other members of the Racehorse Betting Control Board, they had implicit faith in the ability and ingenuity of British engineers to construct a fully mechanised Totalisator that could be suitably adapted to the requirements of racecourses in this country. Last week portable machines were tried out simultaneously at Folkestone and Thirsk, and those privileged to take part in the demonstration came away convinced that the Board had achieved their object, for both machines proved to be a triumph of modern electrical genius. The Folkestone installation is the work of the British Automatic Totalisator Co., in conjunction with Messrs. Ericsson, of Nottingham, and it was demonstrated under conditions as nearly approximating actual racing proceedings as was possible. The B.A.T., as it will in future be known, can cater for fields up to any size, and, as far as I could make out, answered every requirement. In the first place, not more than three minutes elapsed between the closing of the selling windows, on the two imaginary races, before the dividend payable appeared on the indicator, and let me point out this part of the mechanism worked accurately, which is more than we could say at times about some of the attempts to arrive at dividends on certain of our racecourses last year.

The B.A.T. method will also help to solve the queue problem, for the ticket-issuing machines, which will form part of this wonderful contrivance, will permit of any particular horse being backed at any window, whereas, with the hand-worked mutuels, it was necessary to go to one window only for the horse that you wished to back, and one can well imagine the irritation caused and the time lost when the animal happened to be a popular fancy. The whole of the mechanism can be dismantled, transported to other meetings, with a minimum of labour, and I am hoping the public will be given the opportunity to see the machine in operation at the Craven meeting at Newmarket, for I feel sure it will function to the satisfaction of all interested in the Totalisator form of betting. I understand several Northern racecourse executives were present at the Thirsk demonstration, including Councillor Wilburn, the energetic chairman of the Doncaster Race Committee, and apparently they were well pleased with what they saw. This machine, by the way, has been constructed by the British Thomson-Houston Company, Ltd., and the Automatic Telephone Manufacturing Co., Ltd. It is said of this particular machine that 12,000 bets can be accepted and registered every minute.

THE LINCOLNSHIRE ACCEPTANCES.

The acceptances for the Lincolnshire Handicap are due this week, and then the process of sorting the wheat from the chaff can begin in earnest. During the past few days quite a number of horses that are likely to figure prominently in ante-post wagering have been suggested to me, but for the time being, at any rate, I have a perfectly open mind on the contest. Just now climatic conditions permit trainers keeping on the move the horses they require to fulfil early spring engagements; but it is quite possible we shall experience another cold snap like last February and the first two weeks of March to hold up preparations. Now that Mr. S. B. Joel has taken out Knight of the Grail, some of the Newmarket critics are trying to make out a good case for the South African magnate's remaining representative, Porthole, but I find nothing in his performances last season to lead me to believe the son of Pommern has the beating of some of the others. True, the five-year-old ran a good race for the Peveril of the Peak Handicap at Derby last September; yet he does not appeal to me as the type capable of keeping up a good gallop from beginning to end on the Carholme.

I have heard quite a lot about Leonidas II. of late, and this reminds me that M. Boussac's horse was a big tip for the race before the entries were made known. The French colt is now located in S. Darling's stable at Newmarket, but beyond that I know nothing about him.

Only eleven went out at the first acceptance stage for the Grand National, and they include two of Frank Hartigan's, Glanmore and Kakushin. Neither, however, had any pretentions to getting the journey, and I have taken the view all along the Weyhill trainer, in his attempt to win this valuable prize for the first time, would be represented by the Grand Sefton Steeplechase winner, Shaun Goilin, the property of Mr. W. Midwood. Shaun Goilin has won a race since, and I regard the gelding as one of the most improved jumpers I have seen this winter. It would seem the courageous amateur rider, Captain R. E. Sassoon, intends running his recent acquisition, Newsboy, for he has taken out Golden Street, but I hardly think the nine-year-old is a suitable type for the Aintree country. It has cost 60 sovs. to leave in Richmond II., so that George Poole, the Lewes trainer, is apparently not without hope of getting Mr. R. McAlpine's horse fit in time. There is, of course, Kingsford to fall back upon, but he is not the sort that appeals to me.

Grakle seems to have been soundly supported during the past few days, and I must allow he is well handicapped. All the same, I prefer others to T. Coulthwaite's charge. The next acceptance is due a fortnight before the race, but, providing Easter Hero remains sound, I shall not oppose him.

CURRENT FARE.

This week's racing takes place at Warwick, Gatwick, and Lingfield, but there are no items of outstanding importance, although several Grand National candidates are likely to be on view. The Stewards' Handicap Steeplechase at Gatwick is a severe test, for it is decided over four miles, and should Ballyhanwood win, he will have done much towards improving his Grand National prospects. The Troytown Handicap Steeplechase at Lingfield may be the race selected for Gate Book, and I fancy the grey will win for his new owner at the first time of asking. Selections:—

WARWICK.

MONDAY.

Chandler Handicap Steeplechase.—MOUNTAIN SLIP.

Shuckburgh Handicap Hurdle Race.—KHADIR.

TUESDAY.

Chandos Amateurs' Handicap Hurdle Race.—CARAMOND.

Upton Handicap Steeplechase.—PAMPERER.

GATWICK.

WEDNESDAY.

Stewards' Handicap Steeplechase.—BALLYHANWOOD.

Duxhurst Handicap Hurdle Race.—RESIDUE.

THURSDAY.

Surrey Handicap Steeplechase.—GERYONES.

Four-Year-Old Handicap Hurdle Race.—GO EASY.

LINGFIELD.

FRIDAY.

General Peace Open Hurdle Race.—BROWN TONY.

Manifesto Steeplechase.—NICKLETTE.

SATURDAY.

Troytown Handicap Steeplechase.—GATE BOOK.

Trespasser Handicap Hurdle Race.—LACOCK.

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Yesterday's Racing.

GREGALACH RETURNS.

NATIONAL WINNER SPRINGS A SURPRISE.

From OUR RACING CORRESPONDENT.

MANCHESTER, Saturday.

Last year's Grand National winner, Gregalach, made his first appearance since his remarkable win on the Aintree course when he won the Grand Allies Steeplechase here this afternoon by half a length from Ashcrop. Mrs. M. A. Gemmell's gelding was very poorly supported, and started at 100 to 7 against.

Gregalach was not at his best, but jumped well and won comfortably, although Everett, his jockey, was nearly caught napping in the run in. Approaching the straight the last time, Gregalach and South Louth established a clear lead of Brave Cry, Coral Reef II., and Ashcrop. Coral Reef II. fell, and coming over the last fence Gregalach, full of running, drew away.

Backers started badly, for Dumpender, the winner of the Ellesmere Steeplechase, was unbacked after his display at Derby. Privit's Pride was made a hot favourite, but he made several mistakes at the fences. Details:—

1.30.—ELLESMERE CHASE (£150) (2m.

Dumpender (Lt.-Col. R. W. Tweedie), br g by Somme—Kiss—Tilly, 6 yrs., 12 st. (G. Hamilton) 1

Privit's Pride (Mr. W. Riley Smith), ch g by Zria—Privit, 9 yrs., 12 st. 7 lb. (Waudby) 2

Teme Salmon (Mr. F. W. G. Greswolde-Williams), b m by Star and Garter—Teme Valley, 5 yrs., 11 st. 7 lb.....(Speck) 3

Also ran: King Dennis, Indian Warrior, Delaville, Permanent Wave. (Winner trained by Wight.)

Betting.—*Sporting Chronicle:* 2 to 1 on Privit's Pride, 7 to 2 agst Teme Salmon, 10 to 1 Indian Warrior, 20 to 1 DUMPENDER and others. Head, bad third

2.0.—SATURDAY (S.) HURDLE (£150) (2m.).

Onward (Mr. B. Renton), ch g by Hurry On—Lysia, 7 yrs., 10 st. 7 lb. (Mr. S. Elliott) 1

Sunstart (Brig.-Gen. G. R. A. Cheape), b g by Sundawn—Interrogation, a, 11 st. 10 lb. (J. Mason) 2

Xmas Morn (Mr. H. H. Rose), br m by Bethlehem—Best Birthday, 8 yrs., 11 st. 7 lb. (R. Lyall) 3

Also ran: Wadi Halfa, Formidable, Frankness, Front Line, Sunday Rambler, Saighton, His Excellency, Essandar, Ghillie. (Winner trained by Renton.)

Betting.—*Sporting Chronicle:* 7 to 4 agst Wadi Halfa, 6 to 1 Formidable, Xmas Morn, 8 to 1 Sunday Rambler, Sunstart, Front Line, Saighton, 100 to 6 ONWARD and others. 2 l, 3 l. Wadi Halfa fell.

2.30.—COUNTY STEEPLECHASE (£200) (2m.).

Killadoon (Lt.-Col. R. W. Tweedie), b g by Vliko—Mithra Belle, 7 yrs., 11 st. (J. Weymes) 1

Lewendon (Mr. R. G. Macmillan), b g by Sunbright—Eerie, 7 yrs. 11 st. 5 lb. (Everett) 2

Wind Swept (Mr. A. K. Charlesworth), b g by Rochester—Noturnia, 10 yrs., 11 st. (Waudby) 3

Also ran: Rathcoole, Socrates, Tallow Knight, Ahmed Ben, The Danube. Bungalow. (Winner trained by Wright.)

Betting.—*Sporting Chronicle:* 7 to 2 agst Socrates, Rathcoole, 4 to 1 Wind Swept, 11 to 2 KILLADOON, 10 to 1 Lewendon, Ahmed Ben, 20 to 1 others. 1 l., 10 l.

3.0.—GRAND ALLIES' CHASE (£400) (3m.).

Gregalach (Mrs. M. A. Gemmell), ch g by My Prince—Germaine. 8 yrs., 11 st. 11 lb. (Everett) 1

Ashcrop (Lt.-Col. R. W. Tweedie), br g by Corn Kale—Ashe Cosh, 7 yrs., 10 st. 1 lb. (J. Weymes) 2

South Louth (Maj. H. D. Beamish), br m by Southannan—Jenny Jones, 7 yrs., 10 st. (Mr. F. McKever) 3

Also ran: Brave May, Brave Cry, May King, Meleaston, Gold Flare, Coral Reef II. (Winner trained by T. E. Leader.)

Betting.—*Sporting Chronicle:* 9 to 4 agst Brave May, 7 to 2 Brave Cry, 5 to 1 South Louth, 10 to 1 Ashcrop, 100 to 7 GREGALACH and others. ½ l., bad.

3.30.—EGERTON HURDLE (£150) (2½m.).

Leasingham Earl (Capt. J. Campbell), b g by Earla Mor—Buxom Girl, 9 yrs., 10 lb. (Speck) 1

Spontoon (Mr. T. E. Jesson), b g by Spion Kop—Chelys, 7 yrs., 10 st. .....(P. Powell) 2

Mark Twain (Mr. J. S. Wigth), b g by Rabelais—Mandragora, 8 yrs., 11 st. 2 lb. (J. Weymes) 3

Also ran: Loyal Scot, Swift Agnes, Contraband, Corlach, White Violet, Trusty, The Alderman, Light, Monk's Grange. (Winner trained by Molony.)

Betting.—*Sporting Chronicle:* 5 to 4 agst Swift Agnes, 3 to 1 White Violet, 6 to 1 Loyal Scot, 10 to 1 LEASINGHAM EARL, 100 to 8 Spontoon, 20 to 1 others. 6 l., 10 l.

4.0.—ALDERLEY CHASE (£111) (2m.).

Grakle (Mr C. R. Taylor), b g by Jackdaw—Lady Crank. 8 yrs. 12 st. 8 lb. (K. Piggott) 1

Tony Lad (Mr. M. Caddy), 10 yrs., 12 st. 3 lb. .....(J. McNeill) 2

Kariba Gorge (Mr. R. G. MacMillan), b g by By George!—Karilla, 7 yrs., 11 st. 7 lb. (J. Gurney) 3

Also ran: Ampulla, Melleray's Belle. (Winner trained by R. Thompson.)

Betting.—*Sporting Chronicle:* Evens GRAKLE, 7 to 4 agst Ampulla, 7 to 1 Tony Lad, 20 to 1 Melleray's Belle 33 to 1 Kariba Gorge. 6 l., 6 l.

PLUMPTON.

1.30.—STANMER (S.) CHASE (£100) (2m.).

Word of Honour (Mr. C. A. Ringwood), b g by Swynford—Assurance, 11 yrs., 12 st. (G. Wilson) 1

Redshank (Mr. W. Hutchinson), br g by Redwood—Ayah, 11 yrs., 12 st. (J. Brown) 2

Juggler (Mr. P. Thrale), bl g by Juggernaut—Eager Alice, 7 yrs., 12 st. ..(T. Elder) 3

Also ran: King Fiddle, Kwango, Largie, Incitatus, Hugh O'Neill, The Admiral. (Winner trained by Owner.)

Betting.—*Sporting Chronicle:* 2 to 1 agst Redshank, 9 to 2 WORD OF HONOUR, 5 to 1 Largie, 8 to 1 Hugh O'Neill, 10 to 1 Kwango, 100 to 8 King Fiddle. 20 to 1 others. 6 l., bad.

Totalisator (2s. stake): Win, 9s.; places, 4s., 2s. 9d., 9s. 9d.; win pool, 2,752, place pool, 3,623.

2.0.—FALMER (S.) H'CAP HURDLE RACE (£100) (2m.).

Capsicum (Mr. J. Pendarves), ch g by Captivation—Grele. 6 yrs., 10 st. 7 lb. (F. Brookes) 1

Lady Bickley (Major J. M. J. Evans), b m by Braxted—Princess St. George, 6 yrs., 10 st. 7 lb. .....(G. Barber) 2

Duc de Guise (Mrs. L. Panto), b h by Le Traquet o' Teddy—Mistress Henry, 6 yrs., 11 st. 8 lb. .....(T. James) 3

Also ran: Red Conrad, Safe in Bed, Pol Roger, Hennapyn, Thvestis, Signet, Arsinoe, Catlap, Silver Spring, Shooter's Hill (Winner trained by Owner.)

Betting.—*Sporting Chronicle:* 2 to 1 agst Red Conrad, 4 to 1 Shooter's Hill, 5 to 1 Lady Bickley, 6 to 1 Hennapyn, 8 to 1 Duc de Guise, 10 to 1 CAPSICUM, Arsinoe, 100 to 6 others. 1 l., 3 l.

Totalisator. Win 85s. 6d.; places 15s. 6d., 8s. 9d., 10s 3d.; win pool, 3,686, place pool, 3,157.

2.30.—BROOKSIDE H'CAP. CHASE. (£100) (3m.).

Lindholm (Mr. J. C. MacKay), b m by Dalmatian—Grenada, 10 yrs., 10 st. 5 lb. (T. Chisman) 1

Beggar's End (Ld. Queenborough), ch g by Meleager, dam by Morganatic—Choir Girl, 15 yrs., 12. st 7 lb. ... (Ingham) 2

Also ran: Rosecomb, Court Scandal 11. (Winner trained by Owner.)

Betting.—*Sporting Chronicle:* 11 to 8 on Beggar's End, 9 to 4 agst Court Scandal II., 6 to 1 Rosecomb, 20 to 1 LINDHOLM. 2 l. Only two finished.

Totalisator: Win 22s. 6d.; pool 3,203.

3.0.—EASTBOURNE H'CAP HURDLE RACE (£100) (2m.).

Brewster (Mr. W. Hutchinson), b g by Drinmore—Grey Dawn. 6 yrs., 10 st. 5 lb. (J. Browne) 1

Golden Bay (Mr. J. Mayor), b h by Golden Myth—Bayazid. 6 yrs., 11 st. 2 lb. (A. Escott) 2

Treasurer (Mr. A. D. Halford), b g by Treclare—Spearm, 8 yrs., 10 st. 6 lb. (Ingham) 3

Also ran: Balfour, Cornwallis, Squabbler, Desiree, Haply, Æsculapius, Fourfooted. (Winner trained by Law.)

Betting.—*Sporting Chronicle:* 2 to 1 agst BREWSTER, 5 to 2 Golden Bay, 6 to 1 Treasurer, 10 to 1 Balfour, 100 to 6 others. Neck, 2 l.

Totalisator: Win, 58.; places, 2s.. 2s. 3d., 3s.; win pool, 5,177, place pool, 4,109.

3.30.—RINGMER NOVICES' CHASE (£100) (2m.).

Aspirant (Mr. J. D. Roberts), ch g by Birk Gill—Mount Grace, 7 yrs., 11 st. 12 lb. (Parvin) 1

Black Sheep (Mr. H. Beaufoy), br g by Black Jester—Lady Baba, 9 yrs., 11 st. 12 lb. .....(J. Browne) 2

Wood Owl (Mr G. Bates), br g by Blink—Yellow Iris, 7 yrs., 11 st. 12 lb. (Mr. L. Whitfield) 3

Also ran: Finchley Bridge, Zahrat, Blue Cover, Virol, Briar Path Princess Covert, Our Empire. (Winner trained by Poulton.)

Betting.—*Sporting Chronicle:* 7 to 4 agst Wood Owl, 2 to 1 Zahrat, 8 to 1 Black Sheep, 10 to 1 Finchley Bridge, 100 to 6 ASPIRANT and others. 12 l., 4 l.

Totalisator: Win 32s.; places 8s. 6d., 10s. 9d., 2s. 9d.; win pool, 3,726, place pool, 2,807.

4.0.—HOPEFUL HURDLE RACE (£100) (2m.).

Loughbrown (Mr. M. Wardell), b c by Birlingham—Hatshepout, 4 yrs., 10 st. (H. Nicholls) 1

Garryheaken (Maj. W. W. T. Torr), br or bl g by By George!—Lady Dora, 5 yrs., 11 st. 10 lb. .....(Mr Skerrett) 2

Star Boy (Mr. A. G. Whiteman), b g by Vizier—Maid of Honour 5 yrs., 10 st. 10 lb. .....(J. Grantham) 3

Also ran: Italian Summer, Nursemaid, Passing Cloud, Lonesome, Vic, First Favourite, Winter Royal, Nonn. (Winner trained by F. Wootton.)

Betting.—*Sporting Chronicle:* 7 to 4 agst LOUGHBROWN, 2 to 1 Garryheaken, 3 to 1 Winter Royal, 10 to 1 Vic, 100 to 6 others. ½ l., ½ l.

Totalisator: Win, 13s. 3d.; places. 7s., 3s. 3d., 11s.; win pool, 3,524, place pool, 3,325.

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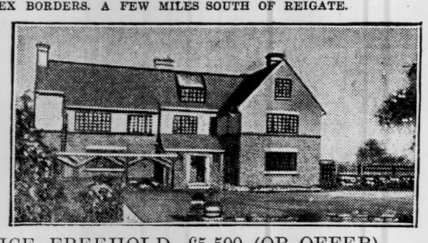

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